The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, No. 75 Fifth Avenue.

TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 3 cents; delivered by carriers (per week) 15 cents; subscribers by mail (per year), $10 00, postage prepaid.

Communications designed for publication to be addressed to the Editor.

Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet, contains all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the family.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: Per year (52 issues), $1 25; in Clubs of Twenty and over $1 25, postage pre-paid; one copy gratis to the getter-up of the Club.

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VOL. XIV. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 11, 1876. NO. 80.

FIRST EDITION.

ASHES TO EARTH.

BURIAL OF THE FIRE'S VICTIMS

Business Generally Suspended in the City.

A Bitterly Cold Day for the Funeral.

THE MARCH TO THE CEMETERY.

Solemn and Impressive Ceremonies.

Great Destitution Among Surviving Relatives.

Prompt Action Taken for Their Relief.

Coroner's Inquest Adjourned to Wednesday.

NEW YORK, December 9.—The scene of the terrible catastrophe in Brooklyn was

ALMOST DESERTED

this morning in consequence of the unsafe condition of the walls. That part of Washington street from the postoffice to Johnson street was inclosed by a barrier of rope, guarded by a cordon of police, and no pedestrians were permitted to traverse it. The bitter wind and driving dust assist the police in the execution of their duties. Within the ruins a number of workmen were engaged bracing the dangerous wall, and the firemen would resume their labors soon after one o'clock. Almost the whole interior of the theater has now been explored. The vestibule has been cleared out from the front entrance to the staircase, and this afternoon a heap of rubbish beneath the staircase will be removed. The parquette has been thoroughly searched, and there remain but few parts of the stage unexplored.

At fifteen minutes before twelve the neighborhood of Schermerhorn street and Flatbush avenue was deserted. No crowds were waiting to see the procession, and here was no procession to be seen.

The bitter cold weather has caused General Dakin to countermand the orders yesterday issued to the local militia; only members of the regiments who volunteered their services will take part in the funeral procession.

A SAD DISCOVERY

Was made this morning among the ruins of the stage. It was thought that the fragment of a human body found on Thursday near the corpse of Actor Burroughs was all that remained of the actor Murdock. This proved not to be the case, for the body of Murdock, or rather a part of it, was found this morning, and clearly indentified. It appears the workmen, in clearing the stage yesterday, noticed a strong odor proceeding from a heap of bricks near the left proscenium box, and came to the conclusion that a dead body lay beneath it. This morning the bricks were carefully removed, and beneath them

A SKEGE FOUND

a part of the charred body; part of the right leg and about one third of the right side of his trunk had escaped the fury of the flames. The head and upper part of the body were consumed. One of the firemen noticed that a piece of black velveteen adhered to the knee of one leg, and this fact caused the belief that

THE REMAINS WERE THOSE OF MURDOCK.

They were afterward examined by Colonel Gaelet, Loraine Rogers and Mrs. Williams, and were fully identified by them as being those of Murdock. They not only recognized the velveteen fragment as a part of the costume of the cripple *Pierre* in the "Two Orphans," but also the buttons with which the knee breeches had been fastened at the knee, and other fragments were removed by the undertaker, who will preserve them until instructions are received from friends of the dead man.

Two men and two women are to day added to the already long list of the missing.

In front of the morgue long lines of wagons, draped in black, were drawn up, and the undertakers were directing the removal of the coffined bodies and preparing to convey them to their burial place. Along Flatbush avenue, through which the funeral procession is to pass, the shops were closed and emblems of mourning appeared.

THE LAST SAD ACT.

The curtain rose this morning upon the last act of the fearful tragedy which began with the fire in the Brooklyn Theater on Tuesday night. Special services will intoned be held at different places to-morrow, in accordance with the request; but the burial of the bodies of the victims this afternoon was a fitting end to one of the most doleful histories of modern times. At the Adams street morgue

ONE HUNDRED COFFINS,

With German silver mountings, were brought in and placed upon the floor, and into them the unidentified and destitute dead were placed. Fifty-six hearses and undertakers' wagons drew up at the entrance on Adams street and at the remainswere lifted in. There were two coffins each in a number of vehicles. Considerable delay in forming the procession was caused by the desire of persons in the Adams street morgue to continue their efforts for the identification of friends, and several additional bodies were recognized. The throng about the market was very large, and the utmost excitement prevailed. Shortly after one o'clock

THE GHASTLY CORTEGE STARTED

Through Boerum place, and then entered Schermerhorn street. Hundreds of men, women and children followed, rushing along the sidewalk in a state of great agitation. When the horses and wagons reached Schermerhorn street, they were formed in parallel lines, and there was a delay of nearly three-quarters of an hour. Although the weather was very cold and a cutting wind blowing a gale, the neighborhood of Schermerhorn street and Flatbush avenue was crowded with participants and sympathetic spectators. The sadness in the faces of the women waiting on the pavements was very much marked. The soldiers who were awaiting orders to move suffered intensely from the cold. It was expected that an entire division of militia would parade, but about half-past eleven an order, caused by the extreme cold weather, was promulgated, that only regiments or companies previously volunteering were expected to parade. It was twenty minutes to two when the order to march was given. The procession immediately moved from the head of Schermerhorn street into Flatbush avenue amid general mourning, and timed by the measured roll of drums and by the

FITFUL SOBBING OF ALMOST BROKEN HEARTS.

Within the houses and without them, far along the wide avenue and across the broad streets, many an eye was moist and many a lip quivered, as the dead were borne to Greenwood, leaving behind them sacred memories and poverty, too, which will not be effaced, and by their very stillness and seclusion appealing more loudly than the noise of works in behalf of those stricken and famishing loved ones for a wise and generous charity. Following was the

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

First, a mounted squad of policemen; a number of carriages containing clergymen; hearses and other vehicles, with bodies of the dead; an escort of several regiments of militia, Major General Thomas S. Dakin in command; relatives and near friends of victims, all in carriages; officers of the city government and others in authority.

On the way down Flatbush avenue, one of the most conspicuous and often occurring sights was an old, large poster, with the ominous announcement, "Brooklyn Theater—Last night of the Two Orphans. Doors open at 7:30 o'clock." Compared with other funeral processions the great procession of to-day had many characteristics of its own. The number and appearance of the many crisped and dismembered forms, the occupants of the carriages, all of them the nearest friends of the dead; some of them were distant relations and mere acquaintances, with tearless eyes, were distinct and terrible features; but the one feature which pervaded the scene and lent to it

DISTINCTIVE AND DEEPLY TOUCHING SIGNIFICANCE,

Was the manifestation of popular sympathy and sorrow. A community had been afflicted, and the sadness was common. Many of the private and almost all of the public buildings were draped; all the flags were at half-mast and torn by the gale almost into shreds, as if the great occasion had a right to all the service they could ever render. An immense crowd had assembled on Flatbush avenue just beyond its junction with Schermerhorn street, and as the cortege filed into the avenue the great mass of humanity moved with it. The intensely cold weather seemed now to have little or no effect on the people. They were there—men, women and children—completely blocking up the avenue, and surging out into the carriage way. The police kept a wide space open for the procession, which moved slowly up the avenue, the people pressing on and endeavoring apparently to approach as nearly as possible the hearses and wagons bearing the fragmentary remains of the victims of the play-house tragedy. The windows of the houses were filled with spectators, and far ahead the avenue was black with human beings. Arriving at Sixth avenue, the column proceeded down that avenue past the private residences, with their peopled windows, court yards and stoops. A vast crowd accompanied the procession, which then turned into Third street and moved down towards Fourth avenue. There was a perfect gale blowing, and when the procession reached Fourth avenue immense clouds of dust were driven across the avenue's great width, and progress was made with considerable difficulty. The long line of march was continued to Twenty-fifth street, and up Twenty-fifth street to Greenwood, the beautiful city of the dead. There was a tremendous crowd at the cemetery. As the cortege passed through the gate, the bell in the tower tolled mournfully. On either side along the pathways, on the hillsides, and invading the private plats, people were there. Turning to the left, the funeral party proceeded directly to Battle avenue, where, about one hundred and fifty yards from the entrance of the cemetery,

A TRENCH HAD BEEN PREPARED

For the reception of the dead victims. The great crowds which were met near and just within the cemetery were formed about the vast grave. The site being on the slope of the hill, and completely exposed, the cold was almost insufferable; but still the people held their places. There was no delay in removing the remains from the hearses and wagons and depositing them in the circular trench. Then the services were begun. Rev. Dr. Noah H. Schenck read the beautiful burial services of the Episcopal Church, which was listened to attentively by those who were within reach of his voice. There was

INEXPRESSIBLE SADNESS MINGLED WITH SOLEMNITY

In the scene. Hundreds of people wept, the tears freezing on their cheeks as they issued from the eyes. After the reading of the services, Rev. A. P. Putnam, of the Unitarian Church of Our Savior, addressed the assemblage. Rev. A. Stewart Walsh, a Baptist clergyman, offered a fervent prayer at the conclusion of Mr. Putnam's remarks, and other services were then brought to a close with the benediction by Rev. James Odell. Previous to the dismissal of the assemblage, the choral societies sang "Shall we meet, shall we know, shall we recognize each other there?" and "Above the tree tops is rest." The people now departed, and all was ended except the enduring agony of the widow and orphan.

THE CORONER'S INVESTIGATION.

After the funeral the Coroner's jury met and adjourned till Wednesday next.

MEETING OF BANKERS AND MERCHANTS.

The committee of bankers and merchants of New York met at Delmonico's and appointed Mr. Benjamin B. Sherman, President of the Mechanics' Bank, treasurer of the relief fund. It was reported that a majority of those lost were poor, leaving relatives dependent upon them. There were about seventy-five cases of absolute destitution, and one hundred to two hundred cases requiring partial assistance.

THE FUNERAL SERVICES OF MURDOCK AND

NEW YORK, December 10.—The funeral services over the remains of the actors, H. S. Hitchcock (stage name Murdock) and Claude Burroughs, took place at two o'clock this afternoon from the Church of the Transfiguration (The Little Church Around the Corner). Rev. Dr. Houghton officiated. Thousands of people assembled outside the church, notwithstanding the bitter cold, and the sacred edifice was crowded. The music was rendered by the ablest talent in the city, among them Madame Eugenie Pappenheim, Miss Emman Thursby, Mrs. Philip Sulzger, Mlle Anna Drasdel, Mlle Henrietta Carradi, Octavie Gomtere and M. Fritsch. Among the prominent actors and actresses present were Edwin and Mrs. Booth, Dion and Mrs. Boucicault, Charles Thorne, Lester Wallack, Tony Pastor, Miss Kate Claxton, Miss Fanny Morant, Tom Morris, representatives from the principal theaters of New York, more particularly the Union Square and Wallack's, and a large delegation from the Chestnut Street Theater, Philadelphia. The music, which was exquisitely rendered, comprised, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," "Ours est beauty," "Sabat mater," "Angels ever bright and fair," and "O, rest in the Lord," from "Elijah." The services lasted nearly three hours, and the remains were conveyed together to interment in the Second street vaults, Brooklyn. The pall-bearers were Lawrence J. Barrett, J. H. Stoddart, F. B. Ward, H. F. Daly, James O'Neil, H. W. Montgomery, Lester Wallack, E. F. Mackey, Frederick Robinson, W. E. Sinn, Edward Lamb, H. B. Phillips, John Parselle, W. E. Sheridan, H. J. Montague and H. C. Jarrett.

A DAY OF FUNERALS.

In Brooklyn to-day, no matter in which direction the eye turned, it seemed to rest on a funeral *cortege*. The burials to-day of those who met their deaths at the theater were as follows: Thomas J. Dempsey, Jas. Kengan, Albert J. Sommerside, Michael J. Wright, Benjamin Chandler, Charles Hartigan, Thomas H. Chichester, Wilkin C. Powell, Joseph P. Mediger, James Morris, Wm. E. Turpenning, Albert Morrison, Gustave Lauterbach, James Holcrath, Geo. W. Jackson, Joseph A. Ashnell, Charles Ware, Sr., Abraham Stillauer, Stephen Oram, Charles E. Gossut, Hamilton B. Farrow, Charles H. Weiss, Harry Ralphs and Wm. H. Barrett, Jr.

MEMORIAL SERVICES.

In accordance with arrangements by the city authorities, memorial services were held at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Park Theater and Hooley's Opera House. All these places were thronged with people. Mayor Schroeder presided at the Academy of Music, and made a short address, speaking principally of the erection of a monument over the plot where the victims of the disaster were buried. A anthem was sung and a portion of Scripture read. Rev. Dr. Storrs said he was in a Western city when he read of the Brooklyn horror, and on looking over the list was pained to find that several with whom he was acquainted were among the victims. He alluded to their weakness into everlasting strength, and what were all the sermons on earth to them? He had no blame for the managers of the theater or those who built it. The architect carried out all experience of his time, and yet this awful disaster had occurred. It should instruct men in the building of public places where large audiences met, to make them safe for the people to escape in case of panic.

Nearly all the Brooklyn ministers and many of the clergymen in New York alluded to the terrible calamity in their sermons to-day, and in Mr. Beecher's church and that of Rev. Dr. Talmadge, collections were taken up in behalf of the sufferering and bereaved families.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Ruger's Reply to Democratic Committee.

If He Is Requested to Keep Them Out of the State House,' He Will Do So.

No Chance to Misunderstand His Position.

COLUMBIA, December 9.—The following has been received by the committee of the Democratic House:

COLUMBIA, S. C., December 8, 1876.

To Hon. Z. F. A. Connor and others:

GENTLEMAN OF THE COMMITTEE: I have the honor to say in reply to your inquiries upon the resolution of which you handed me a copy yesterday, that the United States troops in the State House were placed there by my order for the purpose of executing such orders as might be given; and in this connection I would say, with reference to inquiries numbered six and seven, that if your body should appear at the State House for the purpose of entering the hall of the House of Representatives, and should be refused admission by those having charge of the doors, and such persons should apply to the officers in command of the troops at the State House for assistance necessary to prevent your entering, the present orders to the officers would require them to render such assistance. I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

THOMAS H. RUGER,
Colonel and Brevet Brigadier General, Department of the South.

MEXICO.

Lerdo and His Cabinet Captured.

Secretary of War Escobedo Shot

Lerdo's Government Practically Overthrown.

MATAMORAS, December 9.—News is just received from the interior of Mexico that President Lerdo and Cabinet have been captured by the revolutionists near the City of Mexico. General Escobedo, Secretary of War, was shot, with several others. The government of Lerdo is undoubtedly overthrown. Monterey and Matilo have declared in favor of Iglesias and surrendered without fighting. The whole northern frontier of Mexico except Matamoras is in possession of Iglesias. His friends in this city are now out with music and torches celebrating his success.

The invitation of General Vucitas, yesterday, to the merchants of Matilo Vares, developed into a scheme to plunder them of $40,000 under the pretext of a tax of five per cent. on merchandise and property levied by himself, against which the whole community are protesting as illegal.

CASUALTIES.

Father and Child Killed.

AMSTERDAM, N. Y., December 9.—During the gale this afternoon, M. Manion and child were killed while attempting to escape from their house, the roof of which was blown off, and Mrs. Manion was seriously injured.

Four Persons Drowned While on the Way to a Dance.

LOUISVILLE, December 9.—A special to the *Evening News* says three young ladies, two Misses Campbell, and a Miss Choate, and one man, James Gregory, were drowned in a mill pond ten miles from Olmstead, Ky., on Friday night. A party of fifteen were going to a dance, ten in one canoe and five in another. As the party of ten approached the bank, about twenty-five yards distant, the canoe began to dip water and finally sank. Five of the men and one lady swam to the bank, and the other four were consigned to a watery grave.

An Inventor Done to Death by His Own Invention.

SALEM, MASS., December 9.—A new boiler in the basement of Winslow & Rogers' shoe manufactory, burst while being tested, and J. H. Miller, its inventor, was killed. Messrs. Winslow and Rogers were seriously injured.

Railroad Smash-up—Express Messenger Burned to Death.

BUFFALO, December 10.—Saturday evening's St. Louis express on the New York Central Railroad, due to leave here at 8:40 P. M., was detained by the storm and the lateness of Lake Shore trains till 11:30 P. M. When near Looneyville, sixteen miles from this city, it ran into a freight train which was stuck in the snow. The two engines drawing the express and the freight engine were wrecked, and two express cars, the through Chicago safe and contents, Buffalo safe and contents, Benjamin Woodworth, driver, and New York, express messenger, was burned to death. He leaves a wife and child. G. W. Douglass, engineer, and James Vaughan, fireman on the leading engine of the passenger train, were seriously but it is thought not fatally injured, the former being badly bruised. A switchman was sent forward in the direction of the train, taking refuge from the storm in a car lying on the side track, allowed the train to pass by him. None of the passengers were injured.

Three Men Burned to Death.

ST. LOUIS, December 10.—Early yesterday morning a small frame building at the mouth of a coal shaft near Calhoun, Henry county, this State, was burned, and on examination of the ruins the bodies of three men were found burned to a cinder. Subsequently it was discovered that three miners went into the building after midnight, built a fire and went to sleep on the floor. It is supposed the fire from the stove communicated with some oils stored in the house, and suffocated the men before they could escape. The names of the men are unknown.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Convicted of Murdering a Soldier.

DAYTON, O., December 9.—A verdict of murder in the first degree was to-day brought by a jury against Harry Adams, for killing a soldier named Mullahen on the 16th of February last. The murder was committed in an attempt to rob the soldier. Adams is a young man, a shoemaker by trade. His past life is unknown. He has only been here a year. He is said to have parents, brothers and sisters living in Baltimore, but they have had no communication with him since his arrest.

To Be Hanged for Murdering His Father.

ST. JOSEPH, December 9.—John Lawrence, twice convicted of the murder of his father in Holt county in January last, was sentenced this morning to be hanged in April next. The murder was the most brutal committed in this section for years. An appeal has been made to the Supreme Court for a new trial, and an effort is making for commutation of the sentence to imprisonmont for life, but probably will not succeed, as public opinion is very strong against the accused.

Escape of Two Convicts from the Ohio Penitentiary.

COLUMBUS, December 10.—John Donahue, sent from Lucas county for one year, and Theodore Castilio, sent from Montgomery county for three years, escaped from the penitentiary last night and are still at large. The men occupied adjoining cells, and managed to secret a saw, with which the bolts of the cells were sawed off. The men then went into the wire shop, where a rope and wire hook were secured, and with this they scaled the outer walls. A reward of three hundred dollars is offered for their return.

Robbery in Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 10.—The residence of Colonel N. L. Anderson was robbed, yesterday afternoon, of two thousand dollars' worth of jewelry, including some heirlooms of the Longworth and Hilgour families.

Killed Through Carelessness.

CINCINNATI, December 10.—Jane Marquet, a working girl, was instantly killed this afternoon by Al. Stauffer, who heedlessly snapped a cold revolver at her, sending a ball into her brain. It was supposed the weapon was not loaded. Stauffer surrendered to the police.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Brevet Colonel Thomas B. Weir, of the Seventh United States Cavalry, better known as General Custer's regiment, died suddenly on Saturday morning at his home in New York city, of congestion of the brain.

Hon. George A. Trenholm, an eminent merchant of Charleston, S. C., and Secretary of the Treasury of the Confederate Government at the time of its collapse, died yesterday, aged seventy.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Purposed Change in Electoral Count.

United States Supreme Court Opposed to It.

Think It Would Tend to Lower the Position of the Court.

Senate Sub-Committee to Visit Louisiana.

Trouble Ahead for Grover, of Oregon.

Opposition to His Admission to the Senate.

Hewitt's Interview with the President.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE MATTER.

Mr. Hewitt a Superserviceable Intermeddler.

The Political Situation Much Embarrassed.

What Grant Thinks About Election Frauds.

HIS USE OF MILITARY IN THE SOUTH

He Is Not Afraid of Impeachment.

A Question of Veracity Between Judge Denny and Wade Hampton.

Hampton Did Say He Was Tired of Police Duty,

And that He Held the Lives of Chamberlain and His Party in His Hands.

Hewitt in New York in Consultation with Tilden

Over an Address to the Democracy.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 10, 1876.

Proposed Change in Counting the Electoral Vote—The Supreme Court Do Not Look Upon It with Favor.

The disposition indicated by Senators and Representatives of both political parties to make the Supreme Court of the United States a tribunal for the adjudication of all questions of controversy growing out of Presidential elections and even going so far as to take from Congress and to vest in the same court the authority to count the electoral votes, is viewed by members of that high judicial body with evident signs of apprehension. Since the proposition to invest the court with such extraordinary and exalted powers, the eminent jurists who compose the court have conferred with each other upon the subject in an informal manner, and have uniformly agreed that such action on the part of Congress was to be treated with disfavor. In speaking of the wisdom of their number, whose opinions and experience are entitled to the highest consideration, said tonight that he sincerely trusted that Congress might find some other solution of the Presidential complications than a reference of questions of dispute to the Supreme Court of the United States; that the three co-ordinate branches of the Government should be preserved in their respective powers, privileges and duties; that to refer the questions as proposed, would be virtually to commit a portion of the court of its present high position in the confidence and respect of the people, and to give it the character of a political tribunal; that the fundamental duties of the court were judicial, to pass upon laws passed and approved by the joint exercise of the defined powers of the legislative and executive branches of the Government, and for that reason it was particularly essential that the court should keep aloof from political controversies. He said that on political questions about one-half those exercising the elective franchise were arraigned against the other half, and therefore, whatever might be the decision of the court, however just and impartial, at least one-half of the voting population would regard their action to a greater or less degree in a partisan light; that in the heat and excitement of party antagonism the political complexion of the court, as if politics entered into the minds in the performance of their sacred duties, would be a subject of public comment and speculation. He said when this point is reached, then will the court have lost its exalted place in the respect of the people. He cited several instances of a semi-political character in which the action of the court, as to the impartiality of its judgment, was questioned, the most notorious of which was the Dred Scott decision, and upon which subject from the generation of that day still living has not yet died out. With the lapse of time recovered from the force of their hostility towards the court. He said that he made no reference to the action of the court in this case, but simply alluded to it as an indication of the state of popular feeling at that time, and of the severe blow that the consideration of the question of the jurisdiction of the court in the estimation of the members of one of the great political parties of the day. He said that questions of a semi political character frequently came before the court in one way or another, but in the case of the questions growing out of the Presidential election, the propositions and the issue were purely political, and under certain contingencies, whatever might be the verdict of the court, they had no executive power to enforce. He thought that the court never stood higher in the confidence of the people and more worthy of the court desired to preserve this satisfactory relation to the Government and the people, of whose laws they are the conservators, but that this never could be done if the court were to be drawn into the vortex of politics. He admitted that the complications on the Presidential question were not trifling in their nature, and would require great forbearance on both sides to unravel them; but said that he had great confidence in the good sense, sound judgment and patriotism of the people, and that these impulses guiding the American heart would go further towards a permanent pacific solution of the question than courts or arms; that there might be some factious opposition for a time, but the law-abiding sense of the whole people would soon prevail, and accept the situation, whatever that might be. He therefore sincerely trusted that Congress would determine the questions within itself, where the questions naturally belong.

Trouble Ahead for Mr. Grover.

The election of Grover, Democratic Governor of Oregon, in the case of the Presidential electors of his State, is likely to give him trouble when he puts in appearance in the United States Senate to be permitted to take the seat to which he has been elected in that body. The Committee on Privileges and Elections will take the matter into consideration when the time comes, to inquire into the eligibility of a person to a seat in their body who could be guilty of perpetrating such a fraud upon a people who had previously chosen him to represent them. It is intimated in private dispatches from Oregon that a movement is on foot there to get up a protest against seating Grover.

A Senate Sub-Committee to Go to Louisiana.

The Committee on Privileges and Elections on Saturday decided to send subcommittees to the Southern States to look into the matter which the late elections were carried. A dispatch was read from Governor Kellogg, asking that one of the committees might be sent to Louisiana to be present during the investigations by the House committee. It was decided to instruct one of the committees to comply with this request.

The Truth About Hewitt's Interview with the President.

The nature of the conversation of Mr. Hewitt with the President, last Sunday, was so misrepresented that the President to-day said in conversation it was due that he take notice of it. The facts are these: After a general conversation upon the political situation, the President said in his opinion sixty-three members were necessary to a legal quorum in the South Carolina House of Representatives. Next day he received a dispatch from Governor Chamberlain that it was represented in Columbia that Hewitt telegraphed Hampton that the President had stated to him that whichever Legislature had sixty-three members he would recognize. To this the President immediately replied that if Hewitt had sent such a telegram, it was entirely unauthorized and untrue. The President says what he really did state was, that as he understood it, sixty-three members were necessary in order to legally organize the Legislature and transact business, but that he did not say so authoritatively. The President added to-day, by way of comment, that the Republican House of Representatives of South Carolina is reported to have organized with only fifty-nine members, while the seceding House met in Carolina Hall with only fifty-six members. If fifty-nine members did not constitute a legal quorum, certainly fifty-six did not. He understood that the Democratic House had admitted eight members from Laurens and Edgefield counties who claimed to have certificates of the Supreme Court of the State, when, in fact, they had simply a transcript of the proceedings of the court, furnished them by the clerk.

On Wednesday last the President received two messages from Mr. Hewitt, as follows:

"HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
"WASHINGTON, D. C., December 6, 1876. }
"*The President, Executive Mansion:*

"I have received a reliable telegram from Columbia, stating that the sixty-third member holding a certificate from the Secretary of State has been sworn into the House presided over by Speaker Wallace, which is, therefore, organized in accordance with the requirements of the law, as stated by you.

[Signed] ABRAM S. HEWITT."

"HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
"WASHINGTON, D. C., December 6, 1876. }
"*The President, Executive Mansion:*

"I have just received a later dispatch, saying that the Supreme Court of South Carolina has pronounced its judgment, and declared the House presided over by W. H. Wallace to be the legally constituted House of Representatives; that Mackey is a private person, not Speaker or in any respect an officer of the legislative body.

[Signed] ABRAM S. HEWITT."

These dispatches seemed to prove to the President that Hewitt had, in his telegram to General Hampton, misinterpreted their conversation. The President remarked that the conversation was somewhat free, and he thought confidential, and he did not suppose that Hewitt would use it to defeat the party which he [the President] represented. On the same day, soon after dinner, Mr. Hewitt and Senator Randolph were announced. The President at once showed Hewitt Governor Chamberlain's message and his own reply. At the same time the President stated in very plain terms that he thought his confidence had been abused. Hewitt emphatically disclaimed any such conduct on his part, remarking that what he did say was that the President gave it as his opinion that no less than sixty-three constituted a legal quorum and was necessary to organize the House for the transaction of business. At this juncture Senator Randolph presented a dispatch from Wade Hampton, in which the latter said in effect: "If the President will recognize the Wallace House and withdraw the troops, everything will be peace and quiet." To this the President promptly and warmly replied that he looked upon it as a piece of impertinence on General Hampton attempting to instruct him as to his duty; that the troops in South Carolina were there in obedience to the constitutional demands of the Governor of that State for the suppression of threatened domestic violence by the organized and armed rifle clubs represented by General Hampton, which are now concentrated at Columbia. If the troops were withdrawn, he had no doubt there would be quiet, but that it would be the "quiet of death." Senator Randolph then apologized, saying that General Hampton did not mean to be impertinent; that his message was in reply to a private telegram sent him. After some further conversation of an unimportant character, Hewitt and Senator Randolph withdrew.

The President said to-day that

The Political Situation Was Much Embarrassed.

To say the least, it is a loud tempershown, especially on the Democratic side; that whatever he had done in this connection was with a realizing sense of his constitutional obligations, and he was assured that he had done nothing outside of the law; that there was the fullest justification for sending troops into the Southern States, and if a fair investigation was had of the situation in the States where troops had been sent, it would be shown to the satisfaction of all parties. But notwithstanding the correctness of his motives and the necessity of his action, he had been misrepresented. His acts had been assailed all but four of the States that furnished the men and the means to put down the rebellion, while Tilden carried the three of the United States which participated in it. In New York the greatest Democratic majorities were in wards where crime and illiteracy predominated; that the thirty-five electoral votes of that State were secured for Mr. Tilden mainly through the instrumentality of men who had no interest in the State or Government. The electoral votes of Connecticut and New Jersey were secured through the same class of voters; that Tilden had claims to the electoral votes of no State in the North through its legal citizens, and in the State of Indiana. The classes referred to, he said, were given the right to vote, and therefore no one claims that Mr. Tilden can count about one-half those States. Now if the colored voters, he said, in the South could cast their votes with the same freedom, there never would have been a question of over the States of South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, and he had no doubt that Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama and possibly North Carolina would all have given large Republican majorities in the late elections. But, he said, to take another view of it, suppose the colored people were not allowed to vote; representation from the Southern States would be largely reduced; Tilden would be short thirty-five votes from that section, which would make a vast difference in the result. He said no orders had been sent to Ruger to occupy the State House. His orders were to preserve the peace and to support the legally constituted authorities of the State; that the course pursued was doubtless what the officer believed to be necessary to carry out his instructions. If he had acted otherwise, Chamberlain would now undoubtedly be a refugee from the State, like Governor Ames from Mississippi.

In regard to the concentration of more troops in Washington, he said it would be done if occasion demands it. He said he believed the country would fail to approve of any attempt to disturb the Presidential election would be amicably adjusted, but that the peace would be preserved at all hazards.

In reference to impeachment, the President said he was satisfied that he had performed his duty; that he had not violated the law, and thought that on a fair trial he would be able to produce such evidence in justification of all his acts in connection with the use of the military power as would carry conviction to the minds of all fair persons throughout the country.

A Question of Veracity.

Judge Denny, who visited South Carolina in the interest of the Republican National Committee, says that Hampton, in presence of himself and Judge Settle, did state that he was tired of doing police duty in the State; that for some time he has held the lives of Chamberlain and his party in his hands. Governor Chamberlain alluded to this fact in his inaugural, and Hampton denied it. Denny says that it is a

The Democratic Advisory Committee Held a meeting last night, and will meet again to-morrow night. They have essentially decided to issue an address reviewing the political situation, from their standpoint. Hewitt and Watterson left for New York last night to confer with the friends of Mr. Tilden as to the general character of the address.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 9, 1876.

THE HOLIDAY ADJOURNMENT.

A Washington special says Congress will probably adjourn from Friday, the 15th inst., until the second Monday in January. In the meanwhile the select committees will pursue their investigations in the Southern States.

THE CHIVALRY ONCE MORE.

Georgians Make a Raid Into South Carolina and Lynch Ten Negroes.

COLUMBIA, S. C., December 10.—It is reported here to-night that ten negroes who murdered a white man named Allen, and wounded another named Baker, at Loundesville, Abbeyville county, and who were discovered to be engaged in a plot to murder the whites, were taken from the sheriff's posse and lynched by Georgians. Thirteen negroes were arrested on warrants issued by a trial justice, and owing to threats of lynching, were sent under strong guard to jail at Anderson, the adjoining county, for safe keeping. It is supposed that while *en route* they were seized by Georgians, who came across the Savannah river and summarily dealt with them. No details; excitement great.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—Southerly to westerly winds and slight rise in temperature, rising followed by falling barometer, and occasional snow.

The proper authorities will make an inspection of all places of public amusement in New York city, with the special view of examining their facilities for escape in case of fire.

FLORIDA.

Another Snarl in the Tangled Skein.

Republican Canvassing Officers Hauled Up for Contempt of Court.

TALLAHASSEE, December 9.—Messrs. Cowgill and McLin, the Comptroller of Accounts and Secretary of State, were brought before Judge White, Circuit Judge of this district, to answer to the rule of the court to show cause why they should not be committed for contempt, in continuing the canvass and certifying it for Governor and other State officers after they had been served with the restraining order of the court. At twelve o'clock to-day they appeared with their counsel, Judge Emmons, and asked for time to prepare an answer, and after arguments they were granted until four o'clock. They appeared at that hour, and after a lengthy argument submitted a written answer, which they requested they might not be required to file in its unfinished condition, pleaded for delay, and the Judge granted until nine o'clock Monday morning, when they were ordered to appear and answer.

TALLAHASSEE, December 10.—The members of the Supreme Court have been summoned to Tallahassee, and will arrive to-night. It is understood if the Circuit Court decides to commit the Returning Board for contempt, an appeal will be made at once to the Supreme Court.

NITRO-GLYCERINE AGAIN.

Explosion of a Wagon Load of the Stuff Near Petrolia, Pa.—Two Men Blown to Atoms—A House Destroyed.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PARKER CITY, PA., December 10, 1876.

This afternoon about five o'clock a terrific explosion of nitro-glycerine occurred near Roberts' magazine on the Wash Campbell farm, between Petrolia and Fairview. A wagon containing six hundred pounds had just arrived from Titusville, and the teamster, William Humphreys, and Daniel Smith, agent for Roberts, were going to unload it, when the explosion occurred. Both men were torn to atoms, only one foot and a piece of a breastbone having been found yet. The horses were so mangled as to be scarcely recognizable. Nothing remains of the wagon. A very large excavation was made at the scene of the explosion, and dwellings in the vicinity were shaken to pieces by the concussion. Many windows were broken in Petrolia, distant three-quarters of a mile. The report was heard distinctly at Millerstown, St. Joseph and Butler, as well as here. In this city windows shook and bottles were rattled on the shelves at the time the report of the explosion occurred. Smith was a Canadian by birth, thirty-five years old, and leaves a wife but no children. He was married five years ago to a sister of Zach. Weaver, of this city.

Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of WANTS, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTS.

WANTED — ENGRAVERS — TWO OR three Glass Engravers. Address EXCELSIOR GLASS COMPANY, Martin's Ferry, Ohio.

WANTED—EVERYBODY TO USE Abel's Vermin Exterminator. It has no equal for banishing Rats, Mice and Roaches. Sold by all druggists.

WANTED—TO SELL OR EXCHANGE—For Pittsburgh property, a House in Philadelphia, with all modern improvements. Terms liberal. Address J. E. MITCHELL, 245 Pine street, Philadelphia.

WANTED—A SITUATION—AS SALESman or manager of grocery or produce business; can influence considerable trade; the best of reference given if required. Address BOX N, Commercial Office.

WANTED—A SITUATION—HAVE HAD considerable experience as clerk, &c., in several branches of business, and can produce first-class references. Moderate salary if the satisfactory. Address "F," Lock Box 538, city.

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—ROOMS—TWO FURNISHED Rooms for gentlemen, at 285 Penn avenue.

FOR RENT—4 NICE DWELLINGS—ON Locust street, near Enoch; large yards, with fruit trees, etc. Rent very low. Inquire of LOCKHART & FREW, 174 Wood street.

FOR RENT—HOUSE—A DWELLING OF 5 rooms and second floor, 2 rooms, Penn avenue, near Soho street. Water in kitchen. Rent reasonable. Call on G. E. NORTH, Commercial Agent, at the 2:30 P. M., or address No. 154 Center avenue.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS—New and second-hand; all sizes; stationary and Portable, from 2 to 60-horse power, now on hand. JAMES HILL & CO., corner Marion avenue and F., Ft. W. & C. R. R., Allegheny, Pa.

FOR SALE—GRAIN AND PRODUCE BUSINESS—The undersigned wishing to relinquish their present business, an excellent opportunity is afforded to any parties desirous of engaging in the same line of trade. McKNIGHT & CLARK, 141 Wood street.

FOR SALE—DRUG AND PRESCRIPTION STORE in one of the best localities in the city, doing a good business; can be bought at a reasonable price by any one wishing to engage; satisfactory reasons given for selling, by addressing "DRUGS," Lock Box 160, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE—ONE 14 BY 24 IN. ENGINE, 8 12 by 24 in., a 10 by 24 in., and an 8 by 12 in., a variety of five cut-off valves; also, a lot of Pulleys, Hangers, Shafting and Belting. 10 second-hand Boilers, 6 new Engines of different sizes. JAMES C. ALLEN'S, 186 Lacock street,

The Commercial.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1876.

THE barbarism of slavery is not yet at an end. The curse still lingers in the veins of the *Post*.

THE Democratic idea of "reform" is, "heads I win; tails you lose." Hence the Democrats in the Senate and the Democrats in the House move in exactly opposite directions.

THE argument of the Democratic press is: Business for the North, politics for the South. It doesn't like the retribution of the advance of the black man to human equality.

THE proposition to send the Presidential complication to the United States Supreme Court, seems to the Washington *Star* to have one insuperable objection. It would be requisite for that tribunal to make a decision within a month. Nobody ever knew the Supreme Court to decide anything within that period.

SPEAKER RANDALL, who last year strenuously maintained that the twenty-second joint rule was not in force, has now gone back on himself for the paltry purpose of being in harmony with the party which proposes to usurp the Government by means of trickery or violence. No statesman of either actual or pretended patriotism can afford such a sacrifice of self-respect, consistency or honor—but then RANDALL does not fall within this category.

IT appears that one of the causes of the present commercial and financial depression throughout the world, is the opening of the Suez Canal, which, as shown by statistics, has diverted from employment some two million sailing tonnage and established steam tonnage, shortened the time for operations in India produce in Europe to the extent of five-sixths, and obviated the necessity of accumulating and carrying large stocks in Europe, thus rendering unnecessary a large and costly amount of the old machinery of an important branch of the world's trade, warehouses, sailing vessels, capital, six months bills and the merchant himself with his large retinue of employees; and causing immense losses, mischief and confusion. All these improvements will of course be a benefit to mankind in the end, after society has accommodated itself to such changes, and the past few years have been that period of transition and readjustment.

THE business depression in New York threatens to continue during the entire winter, and those Republicans and "Independents" who voted for "a change" of parties in order to bring "better times," promise to have them with a vengeance. What to do with their capital is said to be a question with thousands of men in that city who have more or less money to place. They are afraid to invest in Governments lest trouble may result when Congress meets to count the electoral vote, and American securities may consequently depreciate, and they are afraid to invest in railroad bonds and stocks, for fear that they will depreciate in price from the same cause. Real estate, too, is stagnant and still downward in its tendency, and they consequently dislike to place their money in bond and mortgage. It is doubtful, indeed, whether there ever was a period in the history of the country when New York capitalists were so troubled how to invest their funds as they are at the present time.

THE venerable PETER COOPER was not a success as a Presidential candidate, but in founding the "Cooper Institute" he conferred a lasting benefit upon his race. This institution is probably doing as much to better the condition of the working classes, to advance their material interests and to promote industry, temperance, intelligence and virtue as any institution in the world. Its prosperity is indicated by the fact that every department is full to overflowing, more than three thousand persons having entered the various classes up to the date of the last annual report of the trustees. There is an average daily attendance of over two thousand at the reading room; from five to six hundred books are drawn out daily from the library for reading and consultation, and the free lectures in the great hall of the institute are always largely attended. The institute is demonstrating on a large scale the advantages of practical schools of science and art in their immediate bearing upon the productive energies of man, and in order that the instruction, lectures and all the privileges of the institute may be brought within the reach of those whom it is designed to benefit, no expense whatever is incurred to the pupils, except for material used in course of practice.

AN unusually important insurance decision has just been rendered by the United States Circuit Court of Indiana, the effect of which, if sustained, will be to deprive of force many State laws regulating the business of foreign insurance companies. The law of Indiana forbids foreign companies having agencies and doing business in that State, except after compliance with certain provisions thereof; but the defendant company, an Illinois corporation, issued a large number of policies in Indiana without compliance therewith. The company becoming insolvent, the assignee sought to enforce payment of the premium notes, which was resisted on the ground that the company was forbidden by Indiana law from doing business in that State. But the court held that inasmuch as the agent in Indiana merely received the application for insurance and forwarded it to Freeport, Ill., at which place the company forwarded the policy direct to the applicant, the contract was an Illinois contract, and consequently that Indiana laws could not apply to it. As to its enforcement in Indiana, the court held that the contract stood on the same ground as any other, valid by the law of the place where it was made, and was enforcible by the comity of the States. Some five or six hundred suits depend upon the final determination of this case, which has been appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

THE Rochester *Democrat* calls attention to a precedent which the Democrats are by no means in a position to ignore. In 1872 there was a Democratic Returning Board in Louisiana. The law under which the board then acted was precisely the same which now governs it; and in accordance with its provisions the board threw out the vote of various districts—among others that of poll eight of the Third ward of New Orleans. The reason for this action is stated in the evidence of FREDERICK SOUTHMAYD, page 450 Louisiana Investigation:

Question—Any other poll thrown out?

Answer—Yes, sir; poll number eight of the Third ward of the city of New Orleans was thrown out from protests by citizens received—Dr. Deuns and Dr. Choppin and Mr. Luke, one of the United States Supervisors; the box had been opened several days prior to the count and they protested against its being received, and it was thrown out.

It thus appears that the Democratic Returning Board threw out the entire vote of a poll upon the protest of citizens that there were irregularities about it. Two conclusions were involved in the proceeding: First, that it was the duty of the board to make a scrutiny of the returns; and, second, that it had full power to throw out any return upon evidence that it was vitiated by fraud. Of course the board took no such action without maintaining that it had full sanction of law for it. The law remains unchanged, and the Republican interpretation of 1876 is exactly the Democratic interpretation of 1872.

A LATE issue of the Galveston (Texas) *News* has an article on the Presidential question, in which the following passage occurs:

Colonel Flournoy felt hopeful, and would not share in the gloomy feeling that many permitted to possess them. The Colonel had a theory, founded upon the constitutional law, with which he quieted the fears of the timid brethren who would not allow themselves to exult before the inaugural oath had been administered. The Colonel is a fine lawyer, loves his profession, and was evidently willing to break a lance with Hayes before the courts of the country before he should take his seat as Grant's successor.

The Washington *Republican* calls attention to the fact that this FLOURNOY is the same fellow who commanded a Texas regiment in the rebel army. When President LINCOLN was assassinated and the news reached Shreveport, Louisiana, where he was then stationed, he made a speech to his troops, urging them to continue the war, and declaring that WILKES BOOTH was a "second *Brutus*." After the collapse of the Confederacy and the surrender of the rebel armies he went to Mexico, where he remained for a year or so, when he returned to Texas. He is now one of the leading Democratic politicians of that State. He was the leader of the party in the recent Constitutional Convention that overthrew the work of reconstruction in Texas, and expects at an early date to be in the Congress of the United States, with BEN. HILL. He is a nice sort of man "to break a lance with MR. HAYES." He is known in Texas as "Exile and Liberty FLOURNOY," and sometimes as "God and Liberty FLOURNOY," in compliment to his residence in Mexico. He is naturally an ardent TILDEN "reformer."

EGRESS FROM PUBLIC HALLS.

The horrible fate which overtook those who were in, but were unable to get out of, that Brooklyn theater which was devoured by the flames before they could find their way to the street, should be sufficient to teach the builders and architects of public halls the necessity for providing a more speedy and more secure means of exit from such places.

We say it *should* teach them; but we are very much afraid it *will not*. There will be much cheap sentiment over this terrible calamity; but every new church, school or hall that is built will be built upon the old plan, with the doors opening inward, wooden stairways, and but one, or at most but two, outlets. The spirit of Bourbonism, which learns nothing and forgets nothing, is not, unfortunately, confined to politics.

There is scarcely a public building in the country from which an audience can retire safely in case of a panic from fire. In fact, the dire horror which is felt in such a panic grows out of a knowledge of the fact that escape in such a case is well nigh impossible. The "opera houses" which are found in nearly all our country towns are usually built with the idea of devoting the first floor to stores, and the upper floor to a hall for public meetings and dramatic performances. The entrance is from the center, generally, but is confined to one tolerably wide stairway built of wood. This is the one means of ingress and egress. A fire that would destroy the one stairway would cut off all means of escape to those above; and a fire on the stage or among the scenery would drive an audience into one frantic mass, striving to escape by a means of exit entirely too narrow and confined. The result in all such instances is that women and children are trampled to death and others smothered to death by the smoke of the rapidly spreading flames.

We have in our eye, now, a half a dozen of such buildings, a fire in which would inevitably cause loss of life if an audience were present. A hall thus constructed, holding from 1,200 to 2,000 people, cannot be emptied in less than ten minutes, even by the most rapid means of exit; and a fire under headway in such fire-traps would overwhelm half the audience before they could get out. The materials used in their construction necessarily become dry and inflammable, and fire spreads through them like a flash of gunpowder. There is no design, in building them, to make man-traps of them; but if the utmost ingenuity had been used to make them a certain means of destruction to human life, no surer plan could have been hit upon than that which has been followed.

This Brooklyn theater, it seems, was built of cheap and light material, with no regard whatever to the public safety. The ceiling was made of painted canvas, fastened to a wooden frame, and the ventilator in the center served as a chimney with a powerful draught to draw the flames into its vortex. The moment the fire broke out it spread over the whole house with the rapidity of lightning, and the building became a furnace for roasting the carcases of four hundred human beings who were burned alive before they could reach its doors.

One-half the blame, here, belongs to imperfect construction of the building itself, and the other half to inadequate means of exit; and the same measure of blame belongs to many hundreds of (as yet) unconsumed public halls. We know of one such hall in a large city in this State, which contains beneath its roof, as was boasted at the time of its building, 150,000 feet of pine lumber. Here is a splendid chance for a fire! In the course of a few years all this large mass of lumber will grow as dry as punk, and a fire will spread through it, when it gets a chance, with a rapidity that will make a burnt sacrifice of a hundred or two of human beings. And then? Why, the owners will collect their insurance money and go on and build another just like it.

It will be useless, we are satisfied, to depend upon owners or architects to build fire-proof public halls, with iron stairways and plenty of them; but as this is a matter of public concern, the Legislature may very properly step in and regulate such matters so as to compel some attention to public safety. Nothing short of stringent legislation will ever reach or remedy this evil. A man, we suppose, may have the right to build his own house so as to be sure of making a holocaust of his family in case of fire; but those who build halls for the public should be compelled to make them as safe as possible. It is for legislative wisdom to arrange the details of such compulsion; but the necessity for legislative interference is too plain to be mistaken or disregarded.

SOLON SHINGLE, ESQ.

The people's "lawyer," SOLON SHINGLE, *alias* JERRY BLACK, is in the field with another "opinion." The indignation of JEREMIAH over the action of the State canvassing boards of the "doubtful" States, is only equalled by that of SOLON SHINGLE, his distinguished contemporary, over the "outrage" of feloniously stealing and carrying away that renowned "barrel of sass." The lamentations of JEREMIAH are quite as lugubrious as those officially uttered by him, when, as Attorney General of BUCHANAN'S Cabinet, he solemnly decided that a "State" could not, by any possibility, be coerced by the National Government. Nevertheless, they were successfully coerced, subdued and restored to their rightful position in the galaxy of the Union; and to-day, their stars, dimmed somewhat, it is true, in their luster, by passing clouds of treason and revolt, still glisten brightly upon the azure field of the American flag. Just now, as we perceive, Hon. J. S. B. is on another tack, and is disposed to view matters through different spectacles. "States" *may* be coerced in the event of a close Presidential contest, if not by the Executive, by a Democratic, or, rather, "Confederate" House of Representatives. Whatever the State laws may be, and notwithstanding the express provision in the organic law of the nation that Presidential electors *shall be chosen* in such manner as "*the Legislatures thereof may direct*," it is entirely competent, according to Mr. BUCHANAN'S ex-Attorney General, for Congress to review their action and to decide the question to suit themselves. Ah! We were partially in error. The Senate—the United States Senate—according to this Democratic Solon, "has nothing to do with the Presidential election—has no duty to perform about it." Neither has the Executive, of course. The whole business, therefore, according to "Judge" BLACK, rests alone with the Democratic House to determine! The State boards, the President of the United States, the people thereof, have nothing to do with the matter—except to stand passively by and let the result be ascertained and determined by the Lower House. Well, we have not leisure, to-day, to discuss the technical points of this last "opinion" of the Somerset county advocate. We may do so at an early day, if deemed worth while. Evidently the mantle of KENT or STORY has not fallen upon this great Democratic luminary of the legal profession, whose deliberate judgment, as published, savors more of the one-sided view of the paid advocate, than of the impartial survey of an honest and disinterested judge. It is more than possible that the ermine which erst graced the shoulders of a BARNARD and a CORDOZA, in the Empire State, awaits MR. BUCHANAN'S Attorney General. Having achieved an immortality of infamy by his official opinion that a rebellion could not be subdued, or a State coerced, by the United States Government, it is eminently fitting that he should now appear as the attorney of SAMUEL J. TILDEN and claim that he is the President elect of the country.

THE New York *Times* cites the case of ABBOTT, as illustrating the principle involved in the case of the ineligible elector in Oregon. ABBOTT and VANCE were candidates for the Senate from North Carolina; VANCE was ineligible by reason of political disabilities under the Constitution. A large majority of the Legislature voted for VANCE, ABBOTT receiving the next highest vote. He claimed that VANCE being ineligible he was elected by the Legislature by reason of having the next highest vote. The resolution of the Committee on Privileges and Elections was, in effect, that ABBOTT, not having received a majority of the votes cast, was not entitled to a seat as a Senator. The yea and nay vote in the Senate was taken on substituting for this resolution the affirmative statement that ABBOTT was entitled to the seat. MR. THURMAN being a member of the committee, made a very long speech, reviewing all the questions involved. The vote resulted in ten for ABOTT and forty-two against his claim to the seat, twenty-one Senators being absent. Among the ten votes for seating ABBOTT are the names of six so-called carpet-baggers, and only three of the ten are now members of the Senate. Except these three every Republican now in the Senate voted against ABBOTT'S right to the seat. Among the Democrats who also voted in the negative are BAYARD, DAVIS, of West Virginia, GOLDTHWAITE, JOHNSTON, KELLY, STEVENSON and THURMAN, who are now members of the Senate. No Democrat voted in favor of ABBOTT. MR. THURMAN'S speech was the exposition of the Democratic view and in many respects stated the views entertained by the majority of the Republicans. As to the law governing the case, THURMAN spoke in the most positive terms, alluding to the decisions in these words:

Now, Mr. President, I desire to say a few words upon the adjudicated cases. I affirm with the utmost positiveness that there is not a judicial decision of the highest court in any State of this Union, except the Indiana decision, that gives the slightest countenance to this claim of a minority man being elected, while it has been decided again and again, as I shall show, notwithstanding the criticism of my friend from Wisconsin, that the minority man is not elected, although the majority man may be under disqualifications. The only two decisions in America in favor of the minority man are the Indiana decisions and the decision of an inferior court, a Common Pleas Court of the city of Philadelphia, which has been referred to, and that pushes the doctrine to its necessary logical consequence.

Senator KELLY, of Oregon, voted to sustain the principles laid down by his fellow Democrat, THURMAN, and yet he traveled six hundred miles to assist and encourage the recreant Governor GROVER in his scheme to cheat the people out of their choice for President, by a wanton and flagrant violation of the law as laid down by the highest Democratic authority in the case above cited.

THE law of Oregon, the State where TILDEN imagines he has stolen a HAYES electoral vote, provides that—

"The votes for electors shall be given, received, returned and canvassed as the same are given, returned and canvassed for members of Congress. *The Secretary of State shall prepare two lists of the names of electors elected*, and affix the seal of the State to the same. Such lists shall be signed by the Governor and Secretary, *and by he latter delivered to the college of electors* at the hour of their meeting on the first Wednesday of December."

The Republican electors were shown to have been elected by the canvass of the Secretary of State. They met at noon on the first Wednesday of December. The Governor refused to give any of them certificates of election, on the ground that one of them was ineligible. It was not his duty to judge of the qualifications of the electors at all. On that head the Oregon law reads:

If there should be any vacancy in the office of an elector, occasioned by death, refusal to act, neglect to attend *or otherwise*, the electors present shall immediately proceed to fill, by *viva voce* and plurality of votes, such vacancy in the electoral college.

The Governor not only refused to certify the election of either of the Republican electors, but gave certificates to three others, in doing which he committed a misdemeanor which renders him liable to severe punishment. The Republican electors voted for HAYES and WHEELER, and sent their votes to Washington in regular form, backed by the Secretary's official certification of the state vote for electors. The President of the Senate will recognize them as the vote of the State, and he will not recognize any others. There will be no opportunity for the House to go behind the returns, a result which this little trick was invented to produce, for that body will have nothing to do with it. The President of the Senate will count the votes of the electors who were elected by the people, and HAYES and WHEELER having received a majority of the electoral votes, will be duly declared elected and inaugurated. All the threatenings, fuss and fume of the disappointed Democrats will avail nothing against the facts.

PERSONAL

Elizabeth Cady Stanton laughs and chuckles over the existing political muddle, because she says, "there is, for once, a terrible muss, with no woman in it to lay the blame upon."

Cadet Midshipman Feramorz Little Young, son of Brigham Young, of Utah Territory, has resigned from the second class in the United States Naval Academy. The youthful Mormon stood well in his class, both in conduct and studies, and resigned his position from no cause save a desire to seek another occupation in life. He had been in the academy two years and two months, and is eighteen years old.

It is now intimated that James Gordon Bennett's marriage, which was so extensively announced last spring, is definitely given up, the breach between himself and his fiancee having been, however, altogether amicable, and the result of a firm conviction on Mr. Bennett's part that he was not fitted for the married state. What nerves presents Mr. Bennett gave Miss May, and they were numerous, have been retained by her at his desire.

The widow of one Toussaint Campau, residing, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, comes forward at this late hour with a lower claim to about thirty acres of land, situate in the business part of that city, long occupied by the present holders. This claim, which casts a shadow upon about $4,000,000 worth of real estate, is based upon the fact that in disposing of the plat originally, when the country was new, the signature of the wife of Campau, now the widow, was not appended to the transfer.

Several years ago the wife of Alonzo Hayward, of San Francisco, obtained a divorce from her husband, and received from him a full half of his property, then amounting to many millions of dollars. Since the separation his circumstances have undergone a great change for the worse, and his divorced wife has repeatedly offered him a large part of her portion. As he persistently refuses to accept a cent of it, she has altered her tack, and courted him so warmly that their remarriage is reported as soon to take place.

A fair is to be held at the Academy of Music, New York, in aid of certain charities, beginning to-day, one of the features of which will be an exhibition of competitive rifle-shooting by the Young Ladies' Creedmoor. Six teams, composed of six young ladies each, and representing England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany and America, will shoot in a gallery arranged for that purpose. The score will be kept each night, and at the conclusion of the fair six gold medals of beautiful design will be presented to the members of the winning team. The attitudes assumed by some of the fair shooters are said to be quite novel and unique.

Word comes from Greenville, Mich., that some hunters have found, on the lake shore, the remains of a man, supposed to be those of the lost aeronaut, Professor Donaldson. Nothing but the skeleton and remnants of clothing is left; but the location is such as to make it seem possible that at last a clue has been found of the silent resting place where the intrepid air-voyager has lain undisturbed for over a year. A fine cloth cap was found upon the remains, and this throws doubt upon the identity, since the Professor started upon his fatal voyage with a silk stove-pipe hat, and yet it is altogether possible that he carried with him such a cap as is described by the finders of the body. The matter will be investigated.

A motley crowd was in attendance at the Grand Jury rooms in St. Louis a few days ago, when the cases of the illicit distillers from Southeast Missouri were under examination. Fourteen of them had already been indicted, and about forty more were on the anxious seat. The raids in which these men were captured were full of incident. The *Globe-Democrat* says: "At one place the distillery was fortified by cutting down trees against the approaches, and a garrison of sixteen men were holding the fort with shotguns and squirrel rifles. The invaders opened fire, and the enemy took to the brush, like a flock of wild turkeys. At another distillery a woman was on guard, and, with wild, dishevelled locks hanging down her back, and glaring eyes—a picture of Meg Merrilies confronting Dick Hatterick—defied the strangers and drew a bead with her shooting iron on one of the enemy."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Grover, of Oregon, is an eighteen carat scoundrel.

Competition is the life of trade. Mexico comes to the front with three Presidents.

Just now everybody is earnestly discussing the safety of our public halls and places of amusement.

The fiery "wah" temper of Watterson, of Kentucky, has to be restrained with the strongest sedatives.

In Boston the percentage of debt to valuation is only 3.5; in New York it is 10.6; in Philadelphia it is 10.

The "funny" column of the Cincinnati *Times* would be greatly improved by the publication of some real jokes.

Lost—the mercury: Sunk out of sight.

There is a radiance which beams from the weather end of a man's nose.

There is an eastward tide in silver again on the Pacific coast, and trade dollars are held at par for shipment to Asia.

Chautauqua lake, famed for its pure waters and the Sunday school assemblies upon its borders, is completely frozen over.

Chicago packers have handled 686,291 hogs since November 1, against 547,577 for the corresponding date last season.

A correspondent asks, "Are our churches all safe?" Unless they are crowded, which doesn't happen to all of them.

Christmas is coming, and this reminds us to ask, "What is a better gift to make a distant friend than a good newspaper?"

Do lecturers lecture? is the question for discussion as soon as it is decided whether election clerks. Some people incline to the negative.

There are three hundred and fifty active reform clubs in Vermont with a membership of 55,000, who are trying to find if hop beer is intoxicating.

Olo Probabilities having been partially lost sight of during the political excitement, takes this opportunity to assure his friends that he is still alive and kicking.

The Baltimore *Gazette* has it bad. It speaks of the lunch party given by the President on Friday to members of the Cabinet and their wives as "Conspirators in Council."

To be sure its a muddle, but the Republicans have the best of the situation, and will be able to make the President, under the forms of, and in accordance with the spirit of law.

The Winchester arms factory is running night and day on an order from Turkey for 10,000,000 cartridges. Attention is also given to a new gun, to carry 1,000 yards with seventy grains of powder.

The present revolution in Mexico should serve as an example of the future in store for us in the event of a departure from the old landmarks of fair elections and firm maintenance of the purity of the ballot.

The Mayor of Boston has set on foot a thorough inquiry into the condition of the theaters and public halls of that city, which ought to result in such changes as will make a calamity like that in Brooklyn impossible.

It has just been discovered that kyanos, or the blue colored metal of the "Iliad," which was employed in the decoration of the shield of Hector, was produced by lipping heated copper into water containing sulphur.

The Democratic leaders should be careful. Shakespeare, who in matters of worldly wisdom is good authority, warns them by saying something about "bloody instructions" sometimes returning to "plague their inventors."

Churches burn as well as theaters. Only a few years have passed since the occurrence of the dreadful disaster at San Diego, Chili, when a Roman Catholic cathedral went down under flames, burying 2,000 worshippers beneath the smouldering ruins.

It is not generally known that an effective remedy for neuralgia is horseradish. Grate and mix it in vinegar, the same as for table purposes, and apply to the temple when the face or head is affected, on the wrist when the pain is in the arm or shoulder.

A remarkable musical organization is the convict choir at Auburn prison, New York. The organist is sentenced for grand larceny; the first violin, first tenor and double bass are murderers; the second tenor, bassos and sopranos are all burglars, and the professor is a forger.

If many more deaths from hydrophobia occurring from the bite of Spitz dogs are reported, that particular breed of canines will soon become unpopular. Another case of this kind occurred on Staten Island on Saturday, the victim being a boy of six years of age, who was bitten in July last.

A Democratic correspondent writes us to "go to thunder." Well, come to think about it, we should certainly prefer to do that and so repose ourselves in the arms of Jupiter, than to accompany our correspondent to that other and very torrid place which we fain hope he may by timely repentance escape.

As the cold strengthens the record of fires lengthens. The recent sudden change in the weather has brought along its inevitable accompaniment in the form of fires, little and big, all over the country. The trouble is, that comparatively few heads of families or business men act as if there were any need of extra precautions in preparing for the winter campaign.

One of the first effects of the Brooklyn theater calamity has been to induce the managers of city theaters to resort to such additional safeguards as will diminish the possibility of conflagration at their respective houses. Additional hose has been provided in some cases, and in others the passages are to be widened and the exits increased. Tanks are also to be placed on roofs, immediately over the stage, so that, by the pulling of a string, the "flies," if necessary, can be drenched at a moment's notice.

Senator Thurman's Position.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

I see by the Congressional proceedings that Senator Thurman "was not prepared" to enter into a discussion of the law on the subject of ineligible candidates. In other words, he had not received his instructions from that arch intriguer, who has not had his equal since the days of Burr, Samuel J. Tilden. The writer listened for several hours to Senator Thurman's speech opposing the admission of Abbott, of North Carolina, and it was an able and complete answer to the question, "Shall the man who received the next highest vote be declared elected, when a majority have voted for an ineligible candidate?" Mr. Thurman, with great power, maintained that "votes of a majority for an ineligible candidate created a vacancy, and did not entitle the minority eligible candidate to the election." The United States Senate, then more than two-thirds Republican, by nearly a unanimous vote, excluded Abbott (Republican) and admitted Senator Ransom (Democrat) elected to fill the vacancy. It is presumption indeed to think of violating all precedents and law to satisfy the cravings of the Democracy, and soothe the now disappointed hopes of Samuel J. Tilden.

V.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

SELECTIONS FROM THE THOUGHTS OF MARCUS AURELIUS ANTONIUS. SELECTIONS FROM THE IMITATION OF CHRIST. By Thomas A. Kempis. Published by Roberts Brothers, Boston. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh.

Marcus Aurelius was born A. D. 121, was Emperor of Rome, and was regarded as nearly a perfectly virtuous man as has ever lived, and truly a model pagan. No one can read these selections without regarding him as an extraordinary personage. The writings of Kempis have always been held justly in high repute, and many a Christian has felt a new inspiration by reading his "Imitation of Christ." The "Wisdom Series" is well named, and the handy size and low price (fifty cents), must make the series popular.

FRANK NELSON IN THE FORECASTLE; OR, The Sportsman's Club Among the Whalers. By Harry Castleman, author of "The Sportsman's Club Series," etc. Published by Porter & Coates, Philadelphia. For sale by J. R. Weldin & Co., Pittsburgh.

Just the kind of a story that will fascinate youth, as it combines instruction and entertainment. Sea stories, especially of this kind, are usually full of enchantment to boys, and create a love for adventure. It portrays the hardships and dangers of a whaling cruise of Frank Nelson and his associates. The tyranny of the quarter deck was successfully resisted by this knight of the forecastle, and the exciting scenes of whaling give the narrative a dash and piquancy which hold the attention of the reader from beginning to end. It will doubtless have a wide sale.

COMMON SCHOOL LITERATURE, English and American, with several hundred extracts for literary culture. By J. Willis Westlake, A. M., Professor of English Literature in the Normal Schools of Pennsylvania. Published by Sowers, Potts & Co., Philadelphia. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

An excellent book and one that will help to supply a want, the essentials of literature. It gives the growth of literature and numerous sketches of representative authors of this country and England. These extracts number five hundred and represent every department of literature and representative men of the age. It will be found admirably adapted to high grade institutions, and its reading and careful study will tend greatly to the culture of the reader. It has other valuable feature beside those named.

IMPRESSIONS AND REMINISCENCES. By George Sand. Translated by H. K. Adams. Published by W. F. Gill & Co., Boston. For sale in Pittsburgh by R. S. Davis & Co., corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street.

The wonderful genius of this gifted writer, will long be a fruitful theme for living writers. Mdme. Durdevant had a career, despite her weaknesses and foibles, amounting to an ovation in literary circles. To view her in the light and elevated plane she occupied in the domain of literature, the reader must cover her faults with a broad mantle of charity, and simply look at her conquests in the field of literature. Everything she has written showed the high culture of her mind, and none of her writings bore evidence of slovenly preparation. These papers comprise impressions and reminiscences upon politics, poetry, nature and home life, and may be read with delight separately or together. We are not obliged in giving this high estimate of her authorship, to indorse her religious views, or adopt her theories of things. These mind records are the more valuable from the fact that the author had passed threescore years, and yet bear evidence of the vigor of her mind.

THE ARUNDEL MOTTO. A Novel. By Mary Hay, author of "Old Myddleton's Money," &c. Paper cover. Published by Harper & Brothers. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co.

This is an English love romance, and describes in glowing terms the love and marriage of a gifted young lady with a nobleman, whom she suspected had wronged her, but afterwards discovered her error. The title is the nobleman's family motto, "We win forgiveness by forgiving."

The Marietta, Pa., new hollow ware works will soon start, employing at least sixty persons, and a new furnace is expected to be started.

S. M. Pettengill & Co.,
Advertising Agents,
37 Park Row, New York,
Desire to Call the Attention of Business Men, who wish to reach the Reading Public, to the following
FACTS:
1. They have been in the Advertising business for nearly thirty years, and given it constant attention and study during that time.
2. They have had, and continue to have, cordial business relations with all the newspapers and other periodicals in the United States and Canada.
3. Their record with all these publications is one of fair treatment, honorable dealing and prompt settlements.
4. In consequence of this, they can always have advertisements inserted at the publisher's *lowest rates*.
5. They are so acquainted with the entire press of the country that they can select the *best mediums* for any given purpose.
6. Having done advertising for all kinds of business, and noted the results to their customers, they imagine valuable suggestions as to the *size, style and position* which will make the most effective advertisement for the object to be attained.
7. Having frequent orders for a large number of papers, they can in most cases get the work done for *less cost* than the advertiser would have to pay if he sent the order direct.
8. They examine all papers, note all omissions or irregularities, secure the strict fulfillment of every stipulation of the order, and submit full files for the inspection of the advertiser.
9. They give the advertiser the full benefit of the facilities and of their supervision *without charge*, a commissions being paid by the publishers.
10. They submit estimates for any given list of papers, or for proposed lists, on application.
11. For a systematic working up of any large enterprise, they assist in the preparation of circulars, pamphlets and general reading matter, in addition to newspaper advertising.
They invite a call from any parties who contemplate advertising in any way or for any amount.
S. M. PETTENGILL & CO.,
37 Park Row, New York.
701 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Centennial Grounds, Philadelphia.
10 State Street, Boston.

E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron.
This truly valuable tonic has been so thoroughly tested by all classes of the community that it is now deemed indispensable as a Tonic Medicine. In almost little; purifies the blood and gives tone to the stomach, bowels and system and personages life. Everybody should have it. For the cure of Weak Stomach, General Debility, Indigestion, Disease of the Stomach, and for all cases requiring a tonic. This wine includes the most agreeable and effectual form we possess—Citrate of Magnetic Oxide, combined with the septrecic of vegetable tonics—Yellow Peruv an Bark.
Do you want something to strengthen you?
Do you want a good appetite?
Do you want to get rid of nervousness?
Do you want energy?
Do you want to sleep well?
Do you want to build up your constitution?
Do you want to feel well?
Do you want a brisk and vigorous feeling?
If you do, try KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON.
Only ask a trial of this valuable tonic.
Beware of counterfeits, as Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron is the only safe and effectual remedy in the known world for the permanent cure of Dyspepsia and Debility, and as there are a number of imitations offered to the public, I would caution the community to purchase none but the genuine article, manufactured by E. F. Kunkel, and having his signature on the cork of every bottle. The very fact that others are attempting to imitate this valuable remedy, proves its worth and speaks volumes in its favor. Sold only at $1 bottles. Sold by druggists and dealers everywhere.
Tape Worm Removed Alive,
Head and all complete, in two hours. No fee till head passes. Seat. Pin and Stomach Worms removed by Dr. Kunkel, 259 North Ninth street, Philadelphia, Pa. Send for circular. For removing all ordinary worms, call on your druggist and get a bottle of KUNKEL'S WORM SYRUP. Price, $1. MWF
NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.,
43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.
W. W MARTIN.....President.
JAM TEVENSON.....Secreta y
Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
No. 61 Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh.
CHARTERED IN 1862.
BOARD OF MANAGERS.—George A. Berry, President; John Scott, Jas. Park, Jr., Vice Presidents. A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, G. Follansbee, Robert C. Schmertz.
Chas. G. Minor, Secretary and Treasurer.
SOLICITOR—John H. Bailey.
TO INVENTORS!
THE INVENTORS' PROTECTIVE AND BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES respectfully announce to Inventors generally, that they have secured a large and eligible space in the Centennial Building, Philadelphia, and will there place on exhibition models of invention of its members. Any Inventor desiring to avail himself of this unusual opportunity to display his invention to millions of visitors, should apply without delay.
For further particulars, advice, &c., apply to the General Office,
NO. 104 FIFTH AVENUE, Opposite P. O., Pittsburgh, Pa.

DRY GOODS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6th, 1876.
AT WILLIAM SEMPLE'S,
Nos. 165, 167 and 169 Fed eral Street, Alleghe heny, Pa.
Approaching the Holiday season, and having made ver y extensive preparations for that time, we are daily in receipt of New Fancy Novelties, suitable for Christmas Presents, making our stock one of th e largest, most varied and attractive west of New York. Prices always Lowest.
Beautiful line of New Fancy Ties, Bows and Scarfs.
Latest novelties in Neck Ruchings and Neck Wear.
New and choice line of Ladies' Linen and Fancy Sets.
To this department has been added ma line of Fur and Feather Trimmings, in all the 23 cents each up. Fancy Jewelry of every de
Latest Novelties Now in Every Department!
Plain, Fancy, Embroidered and Initial Handkerchiefs.
Ladies' Lisle, Lined, Cloth, Silk, Kid, Fur-top and Castor Gloves.
New Plain and Crayon and Spatter-work Mottoes.
ny other New Novelties. A new and very cho various kinds, at special low prices. Laces, E scription, &c., &c., &c., and a beautiful line of
Woolen Hoods, Jackets and Sacques, knit and band made.
Childrens and Misses' Fur Hats and Caps.
Real and Imitation Sealskin Caps.
New Flowers, Feathers, Wings and Tips.
Comple te and Varied Stock of Gents' Furnishing Goods!
Special Bargains in Unlaundried Shirts.
Gents' Fine White Dress and Percale Shirts.
Barred and Plain Flannel and Cloth Shirts.
Shirt Fronts, Cuffs, Collars, Bows, Scarfs, &c.
In addition to the above, in our Fancy very extensive assortment of Housekeeping ar
New Woolen Scarfs, Cashmere Scarfs and Silk Mufflers.
Gents' Linen and Silk Handkerchiefs.
Plain, British and Fancy Hosiery.
Goods Department we have a full and complet ticles of every description. Toys, fancy and u
Chinchilla and Fur-topped Gloves.
Suspenders, Braces, &c., &c.
Gents' Walking Canes—large assortment.
New Novelties arriving daily.
all kinds, China, Glass and Queensware, and a es.
N ew Attractions in Dr ess Goods Departme nt!
At 18½c and 20c, latest shades in Plain Alpaca Poplins.
At 20c, all colors in double-fold Alpacas, worth 25c.
At 25c, Cashmere, Diagonal and Alpaca Brocades, worth 31c.
Special low prices having been made o braces all the very latest high novelties in Am
At 60c to $1 50, extra fine Colored Cashmeres.
At 60c to $3 50, very superior Black Cashmeres.
At 12½c, choice line of Winter Dress Goods, in calling attention to the unusual good value material and colors for the season. An exami
At 1¾c, Knickerbocker Suitings, worth 20c.
At 12½ and 15c, best styles Tycoon Reps.
At $1 00 to $2 50, beautiful line of Colored Silks.
At 85c to $3 50, extra value in Black Silks.
to be found in this Department, which em nation will amply repay.
New Attractions in Dr ess Goods Departme nt!
At 20, 25 and 30c, Sicilian Basket Cloth Suiting, worth 25 to 50c.
At 25c, Cashmere Striped Suitings, worth 37½c.
At 25 to 50c, new line of fine Cashmeres.
At 25 to 54c, new fine Colored Cashmeres.
n these goods this day, we take great pleasure erican and Foreign Dress Fabrics, suitable in
At 40 and 62½c, special bargain in Colored Merinos.
At 60c to $1 50, extra fine Colored Cashmeres.
At 60c to $3 50, very superior Black Cashmeres.
At 12½c, choice line of Winter Dress Goods, in calling attention to the unusual good value material and colors for the season. An exami
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At 25c, Cashmere Striped Suitings, worth 37½c.
At 25 to 50c, new line of fine Cashmeres.
At 25 to 54c, new fine Colored Cashmeres.
n these goods this day, we take great pleasure erican and Foreign Dress Fabrics, suitable in
At $2, Ladies' Heavy Beaver Cloth Sacques.
At $3, Rough Cloth Sacques, extra length.
Ladies' Black and Colored Made Up Suits.
Blankets and Flannels of Eastern and Stock Full and Complete. Prices the Lowest.
New est Parisian and Am erican Outside Garm ents!
At $5 and $6, Basket Cloth Sacques, worth $10 to $12.
New and Beautiful line Winter Shawls.
Country makes, Waterproof Cloths in all colo Value the Best.
Infants' Outfits of all kinds.
Bustles, Panniers, Hoop Skirts, &c.
Coverlets, Housekeeping and Domestic Goods.
OUR "LADIES' JOURNAL."
The December and HOLIDAY NUMB over former issues, and is certainly the most
A Sample Copy will be M

FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, December 9, 1876.

The week closed without any especial alteration in the financial situation. The supply of funds continues abundant, and the money market remains quite easy, as is likely to be the case until the opening of the new year, when the requirements of trade in making the settlements for that period may absorb a considerable portion of the surplus funds of lenders. Prime commercial paper is wanted by the banks, as it is not offered in sufficient quantity to afford full employment for the loanable funds of the banks. This keeps rates easy, as low rates on sound security are wisely preferred to higher rates on doubtful or unknown paper. Discount quotations are unchanged at 7@9 per cent. on prime business paper, and 6@7 on first class collateral securities. The operations of the Clearing House for the past week were in about the usual volume for the season. The figures show a falling off of about 4½ per cent. in the aggregate for the year so far, as compared with last year. The report for the week ending to-day is as follows:

	Exchanges.	Balances
December 4.....	$889,710 74	$141,656 87
December 5.....	939,967 17	102,001 93
December 6.....	724,626 04	117,013 10
December 7.....	762,645 53	164,139 07
December 8.....	1,015,621 69	135,985 56
December 9.....	579,713 67	102,894 77
Total.....	$4,260,304 74	$733,691 26
Week ending Dec. 4.	$4,026,854 37	$820,904 24
Week ending Nov. 25	4,264,172 79	883,680 05
Week ending Nov. 18	4,153,621 69	815,731 85
Week ending Nov. 11	4,056,772 63	892,054 30
Week ending Dec. 11, '75	4,605,236 36	895,338 69
Total 1876 to date....	41,670,304 74	41,670,304 74
Total 1875 to date....	220,188,518 64	36,352,458 46

—There is continually more or less exploration required by country banks with reference to the charging of checks to their largest account by their city correspondents. This subject was thoroughly discussed in the COMMERCIAL of June 14, 1875, but in accordance with a request recently made to us we will repeat the explanation of the system pursued by the banks of this city. First we may say that the differences which puzzle country bankers between balances shown by accounts current and those shown by interest statements, are due to the fact that bankers in making up their interest statements are guided to a considerable extent by the clearing house arrangements—the business of each day between the several banks is settled at the clearing house at eleven o'clock the next day, and the checks there delivered are then charged to the accounts of the drawers. Thus the checks of a certain bank come into the city, on Monday for instance, and are deposited in another bank by its correspondents for collection. By mutual consent and arrangement that depository bank does not collect the check on Monday but holds it over for clearing-house settlement on Tuesday morning, when it receives payment for the checks held by it, and also pays to the other banks the checks held in like manner against itself. Thus the items passing during the clearing-house exchanges are not charged to the drawer's account until one day than they would be without this system of clearings. In the interest statement however, they are charged against the balances of the day to which they belong and this creates the differences alluded to above.

The city banks believe that this is the surest method of calculating the interest that can be employed as between them parties receiving and paying it. Sometimes it is the case that a check, drawn to day by a country correspondent, is received in the city by to-morrow morning's mail, is at once added to the clearing-house exchanges, and going through settlement on that day, is charged up in the account-current and the interest account on the same day. This seldom occurs, however. At first sight it appears unjust, and would be so were there not certain inconspicuous but important conditions that work in favor of the country bank. The principal of these is the obligation that the banks here are under to credit all demand items in city houses as soon as they are received; although they are not cash to the banks here, until they are paid through the clearing-house on the following, and sometimes the second day. Another fact in favor of the country correspondent is the time gained by the delay in presenting its checks through the clearing-house, for without this arrangement very many such checks would have to be met one day sooner than they are now. This in times of scarcity of money is an important consideration. It is generally supposed that the Pittsburgh banks can collect items on Allegheny city, Birmingham and Manchester easily as in this city. This is a mistake, for, although the Pittsburgh banks can collect checks on these through the clearing-house, that privilege is more than counterbalanced by the difficulties of collections on private parties and on notes payable at bank there. In addition to this the city banks credit at par on receipt checks on New York, Philadelphia and other leading cities, on which they immediately begin to pay interest though they themselves do not get credit for the money for several days after.

It will thus be seen that the system followed by the banks here, and in all the other leading cities, is, taking all the circumstances into consideration, just and equitable; and that it generally works no special hardship to country bankers, when its entire operations are reviewed.

—The New York bank statement shows an increase in the specie average for the week of $2,439,300 and a falling off in the legal tender note average of $3,449,800. The average of deposits is $2,471,200 less than last week; according to the changes in the items which make up the item of deposits there should have been a reduction (in deposits) of only about $1,000,000. The effect on the surplus reserve of these changes is slight—a decrease of $892,700; that is to say, the surplus reserve which last week was $8,447,300 is now $8,084,600. The following is a comparison of the averages of the New York banks for the past two weeks:

	Dec. 2.	Dec. 9.	Differences.
Loans.....	$256,388,700	$256,684,000	Inc. $ 295,300
Specie.....	40,975,300	43,414,600	Inc. 2,439,300
Legal tenders....	39,862,700	36,273,900	Dec. 3,449,800
Deposits.....	282,822,900	280,351,700	Dec. 2,471,200
Circulation.....	24,937,900	24,971,800	Inc. 79,300
Total reserve.....	80,387,800	80,287,500	Dec. 1,010,300
Surplus reserve....	31,837,300	31,212,700	
Excess.....	8,477,300	8,084,600	Dec. 392,700

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

	10:00 A. M.	11:00 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
December 9, 1876.						
Gold.....	107⅛	107⅛	107⅛	107¼	107⅛	107¼
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup..	116	....	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865.....	108¼	107¾	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1865, new....	108¼	107¾	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1867, registered	112	112	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1867, coupon..	112	112	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1868, registered	112	112	....	....	....	....
5-20's, 1868, coupon..	112	112	....	....	....	....
10-40's, registered....	111½	111½	....	....	....	....
10-40's, coupon.....	111½	111½	....	....	....	....
5-20's 5 per cents.....	107	107	....	....	....	....
Central Pacific 1st....	107½	107½	107½	107½	107½	107½
Quicksilver.....	23½	23¾	24	24	24	24
Pacific Mail.....	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾
Adams Express.....	95	....	....	....	....	....
Wells-Fargo Ex.....	93	....	....	....	....	....
American Ex.....	60½	....	....	....	....	....
United States Ex....	51	....	....	....	....	....
New York Central....	102¾	....	....	....	....	....
Erie.....	8½	....	....	....	....	....
Do. preferred.....	16	....	....	....	....	....
Pacific Mail.....	23¾	....	....	....	....	....
Do. preferred.....	133	....	....	....	....	....
Michigan Central....	42½	....	....	....	....	....
Illinois Central....	97¾	....	....	....	....	....
Lake Shore.....	56¾	....	....	....	....	....
Illinois Central....	97¾	....	....	....	....	....
Cleve. and Pitts....	89	....	....	....	....	....
Northwestern.....	35¾	....	....	....	....	....
Do. preferred.....	63½	....	....	....	....	....
C. C. C. & I.....	88	....	....	....	....	....
N. J. Central.....	34½	....	....	....	....	....

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881.	115¾	New 5's.....	110⅜
5-20's, 1865.....	108	New 4½'s.....	109¼
5-20's, 1865, new....	107¾	New 4's, registered..	104½
5-20's, 1867.....	111¾	10-40's, coupons....	111
5-20's, 1868.....	116	Currency 6's.....	129½
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee, old.....	43	Virginia, old.....	30
Tennessee, new.....	43	Missouri 6's.....	103⅝
Virginia, new.....	50		

LONDON, December 9, 5 P. M.—The amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance to day is £1,040. The steamship Acasenia, from Liverpool to-day, took $100,000 in specie for the United States. Consols 93 15-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 109½; do. 1867, 110½; new 5's, 107½; 10-40's, 106½. Railroad securities—New York Central 96; Erie 9; do. preferred 16.

PARIS, December 9.—Rentes 104 francs 42 centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 9.—United States bonds—New 5's 101½.

NEW ORLEANS, December 9.—Gold 108. Sight exchange on New York par to one-half discount. Sterling exchange 515½.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, December 9, 1876.

The severe cold served as a check on business to-day and the volume of trade, although rather light, was much reduced. The general features of the market were not materially altered, prices being in some instances rather nominal, with no important changes in quotations to note.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce in this city since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls.....	1,300	Apples, bbls.....	147
Corn, bush.....	40,000	Cheese, lbs.....	233
Wheat, bus.....	1,080	Butter, pkgs.....	106
Barley, bus.....	1,900	Potatoes, bus.....	225
Rye, bus.....	865	Hay, bales.....	330
Oats, bus.....	1,400		

The receipts of the leading articles of produce in Pittsburg during the week ending to-day, compared with the corresponding receipts for the three preceding weeks, are as follows:

Week ending Nov.	18.	Nov. 25.	Dec. 2.	Dec. 9.
Flour, bbls.....	9,308	10,389	7,522	7,868
Apples, bbls....	1,496	1,739	1,580	994
Cheese, lbs.....	997	1,230	1,486	1,349
Corn, bus.....	7,103	9,504	8,007	8,401
Wheat, bus.....	2,295	5,928	6,455	5,120
Barley, bus.....	12,650	6,000	5,915	6,909
Rye, bus.....	2,717	1,275	3,225	6,420
Oats, bus.....	15,300	18,200	15,200	14,515
Butter, pkgs....	384	350	417	519
Bacon, pcs.....	0	1,491	6,312	17,974
Bacon, lbs.....	250	27	125	109
Potatoes, bus....	7,719	5,531	8,505	2,620
Hay, bales.....	1,459	1,068	1,841	952

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—Receipts are moderate and the market is quiet and unchanged. Wheat is firm but not very active. We quote prime Ohio and Pennsylvania red at $1 30@1 33 per bushel; amber $1 35@1 38; white $1 38@1 40. Corn is quiet but firm. We quote shelled at 58@59c for prime yellow; 57@58c for high mixed; 56c for low-mixed; new ear corn is steady at 48@50c per bushel. Oats in fair demand and steady. We quote prime white at 39@40c per bushel; mixed 37@38c. Rye is in increased supply and easy at 70@75c. Barley is quiet and nominally easy. We quote 75@85c for good to prime spring; prime fall $1 00@1 10. Nothing sales are made at the usual advance. The visible supply of grain, comprising the stocks in granary at the principal points of accumulation at lake and seaboard ports, in transit by rail, on the New York canals and the Erie & Welland canals is as follows, the under-mentioned dates:

	Wheat, bus.	Corn, bus.	Oats, bus.	Barley, bus.	Rye, bus.
Dec. 2, '76	9,375,936	6,831,107	2,732,164	1,032,286	307,245
Nov. 25, '76	10,282,482	6,950,168	2,904,976	1,052,544	276,044
Nov. 18, '76	10,722,911	7,004,262	2,944,976	1,052,544	276,044
Nov. 11, '76	11,326,641	8,784,562	3,119,478	4,640,993	842,992
Nov. 4, '76	11,326,641	8,784,562	3,119,478	4,640,993	842,992
Oct. 28, '76	10,906,995	10,101,541	4,360,041	3,546,192	852,537
Oct. 21, '76	10,906,995	10,101,541	4,360,041	3,546,192	852,537
Oct. 14, '76	10,964,250	3,426,233	3,531,732	2,252,280	495,300

FLOUR—Continues quiet but steady with moderate receipts. Local millers quote their high-grade roller process No. 1 brands of wheat flour $7 50 ₱ barrel; No. 1 amber do $6 75@7 00; prime red wheat flour $6 25@6 50; in sacks 25c per barrel less. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers for standard brands of flour are as follows: Choice family wheat flour $7 50@7 75; fancy do $8 00@8 25; choice winter wheat flour $7 50@7 75; white wheat $7 25@7 50; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 00@6 25; Minnesota $6 00@6 75; fancy St. Louis $6 50@7 00; Spoon patents $6 50@9 00; Graham flour $6 50@6 75; cornmeal 70c ₱ bushel; rye flour $5 00@5 25 barrel; kegs $3 75; rye flour $4 25@4 50 ₱ barrel.

HAY—The market is more active, with an increase both in supply and demand, at unchanged prices. We quote loose from wagon at $12 00@16 00 ₱ ton. Baled from first hands $13 00@13 00 ₱ ton; mid-things $20 00@22 00; seconds and slip-stuffs $15 00@17 00; chopped feed $20 00@22 00.

Country Produce.

APPLES—The demand is moderately good, and the market is steady and unchanged. We quote prices in a jobbing way at $1 00@1 50 per barrel.

APPLE BUTTER—Is dull and nominal at 30@35c ₱ gallon.

BEESWAX—Is in fair demand at 30@35c ₱ lb.

BEANS—The demand is active and the market is firm with an upward tendency. We quote prime white navy at $1 75@2 00 per bushel; some stock held at $2 25.

BROOM-CORN—The supply is large with a moderate demand for small lots, and the market is rather easy. We quote choice hurl at 6@6½c; self do quality; brush 4@4½c; crooked 3@3½c; medium green 4@4½c; red-topped 3@4c; inferior not wanted at any price; crooked in hurl 2@2½c; hurl cut off from 3½ to 3½ and preferred from 5½ to 5¾, with closing sales at a recovery of ¾ per cent. for former and ¼ per cent. for preferred. Lake Shore rose from 56¼ to 57¼, fell off to 56¾ and closed at 56¾; Michigan Central advanced from 43 to 43¾, fell off to 43¼, and closed at 43¾; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western rose from 71 to 72 and reacted to 71½; Western Union rose from 72¼ to 72¾, declined to 71¾ and closed at 72; Erie declined from 9 to 8½; Rock Island from 100 to 99¾; St. Paul common from 19¾ to 19¾, preferred from 32 to 32, Wabash from 5¾ to 4¾ and Pacific Mail from 24¼ to 23¾. Among the sales to-day were 4,700 shares of Pacific Mail, 7,300 Western Union, 5,000 North western, 3,000 St. Paul, 9,000 Erie, 46,300 Lake Shore, 3,000 New York Central, 8,000 Toledo and Wabash, 9,300 Michigan Central, 4,000 Delaware and Hudson Canal, 8,000 New Jersey Central and 15,200 Delaware and Lackawanna. The burdens of taxation (Federal, State and municipal) on bank stock are so heavy, amounting to about five per cent. on the capital, that several of the largest New York banks contemplate reducing their bank capital. Three have the matter under consideration. The Fourth National Bank, with a capital of $5,000 000, has already submitted to the stockholders the proposition to reduce the capital to $3,000,000, paying back to the stockholders the par value of $2,000,000 stock. The Governing Committee of the Stock Exchange have under consideration the question to reduce the brokers' commissions on the purchases and sales of stocks and securities. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central....	30	30½	400
Erie.....	8½	8⅝	
United Cos. of N. J....	138½	139	
Pitts., Ft. Wayne & Chicago	85	86	
Lehigh Valley.....	40¼	41	
Allegheny Valley 7 per's	101	101½	
Central Transportation..	30½	....	
Empire Transportation..	55	....	
P., C. & St. L. m. b....	83	84	

(By Associated Press.)

Gold Closed at 107¼.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, December 9.—Money 5@7 per cent., closing active at 6@7 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 5@6½ per cent. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $1,024,000. Customs receipts $168,000. The steamer Brittanic, from Liverpool, brought £215,000 specie. Sterling 481@482¾.

GOLD.

Gold opened at 107¼ and closed at 107¼, with sales in the interim at 107. Carrying rates 5, 3, 4¼, 4 and 3½ per cent.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds closed dull. Railroad bonds quiet this afternoon; Chicago and Northwestern, consolidated gold coupons were firm and brought 92¾; Hannibal and St. Joseph convertibles sold at 80½@80¾ and Union Pacific sinking funds at 91. State bonds quiet but steady at nominal prices. The stock market was strong and higher early in the day and prices advanced from ¼ to 2 per cent., but during the afternoon there was a reaction of from ¼ to 1½ per cent., following a partial recovery at the close. The widest fluctuations of the day were in New York Central and Northwestern common, while Lake Shore, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, Michigan Central, Pacific Mail and Western Union were prominent in dealings. New York Central advanced from 102¼ to 104¾ and closed at 103; North western common fell off from 35½ to 34¾ and preferred from 59¾ to 58¾, with closing sales at a recovery of ¾ per cent. for former and ¼ per cent. for preferred. Lake Shore rose from 56¼ to 57¾, fell off to 56¾ and closed at 56¾; Michigan Central advanced from 43 to 43¾, fell off to 43¾

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Weather Report.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SIGNAL SERVICE U. S. ARMY,
PITTSBURGH, December 10, 1876, 10:48 P. M.

Cairo, Ills—Ther. 32; wind S. W.; clear.
Cincinnati, O.—Ther. 27; wind S. W.; clear.
Davenport, Iowa—Ther. 12; wind N.; clear.
Denver, Col.—Ther. 36; wind W.; clear.
Indianapolis, Ind.—Ther. 25; wind S.; clear.
Keokuk, Iowa—Ther. 23; wind N. W.; clear.
Leavenworth, K.—Ther. 25; wind N. W.; clear.
Louisville, Ky.—Ther. 31; wind S. W.; haze.
Memphis, Tenn.—Ther. 36; wind S.; haze.
Nashville, Tenn.—Ther. 37; cloudy.
Omaha, Neb.—Ther. 28; clear.
Pittsburgh—Ther. 12; wind N. E.; foggy.
Portland, Oregon—Ther. 31; wind N.; cloudy.
Salt Lake City—Ther. 22; wind N. W.; foggy.
San Diego, Cal.—Ther. 55; wind N.; clear.
San Francisco, Cal.—Ther. 50; wind N.; clear.
Santa Fe, N. M.—Ther. 32; wind E.; clear.
Shreveport, La.—Ther. 50; wind N.; cloudy.
St. Louis, Mo.—Ther. 35; wind N.; clear.
Vicksburg, Miss.—Ther. 53; wind S.; light rain.
Virginia City, Mon.—Ther. 42; wind S. W.; clear.
Fort Gibson—Ther. 27; wind S. E.; clear.

Costiveness,
or any Bilious Symptoms, are removed effectually by Dr. Jayne's Sanative Pills. MWS*

Man Killed.

About half-past seven o'clock last evening a man, name not reported, was found dead under the railroad bridge at Saw Mill run, in the Thirty-ninth ward. He had a gash in his head and it is believed that he was struck by a train when crossing the bridge, and knocked off. An inquest will be held by the Coroner.

Slight Fire.

Shortly before two o'clock on Saturday afternoon a fire was discovered in the garret of the building No. 111 Wood street, occupied by Mr. H. Reuck, tobacconist. An alarm was promptly answered by several companies of the Fire Department, and the flames were extinguished before they had gained headway. A defective flue was the cause.

A Good Thing.

The Central District and Printing Telegraph Company is now ready to put into operation the "District" branch of its business. This is fully explained in an advertisement on the first page of to-day's COMMERCIAL. It is, in brief, the placing of a telegraph instrument in stores, banks and private dwellings, by means of which messengers, policemen and firemen can be summoned at any hour, day or night.

The Police Department

A special meeting of the Police Committee was held on Saturday evening for the purpose of taking action looking to provision for the pay of the police until the close of the fiscal year, January 31, 1877, the appropriation running short. The following resolution was decided upon for presentation to Councils:

Resolved, That the City Controller be and is hereby authorized to issue his certificates to the Mayor for warrants amounting to $2,300 67 in favor of the Police Department upon any appropriations having balances after payment of December bills of 1876.

Nearly Frozen to Death.

Jackson Beatty, of Baden, Beaver county, came to Allegheny in a wagon Saturday afternoon, and while going down Federal street Mr. Joseph Thompson, of that city, noticed that the man was in that drowsy condition that precedes death from freezing. Mr. T. climbed into the wagon and shook Beatty roughly, but failed to arouse him. Hastily calling help, Mr. Thompson drove the wagon to Beplar's hotel, in South Diamond, where the stranger was lifted out and carried into the barroom, still speechless. By dint of much shaking of the limbs with hot blankets, and administering sundry hot drinks, he was brought around, and departed for the house of a friend.

A Conditional Pardon Offered Grier.

From the following, received by one of the counsel for the Nation Trust Company stockholders, on Saturday, it will be seen that Robert J. Grier, the missing cashier, will be given a pardon providing he returns home and testifies in the proceedings respecting the company. Mr. Schuyler and others interested say that Mr. Grier will accept:

BOARD OF PARDONS,
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,
HARRISBURG, December 7, 1876,
N. Schuyler, Esq., Pittsburgh.

DEAR SIR:—In the case of Robert J. Grier, I am directed to inform you that if Grier will return and testify that the bond will then be renewed at his pardon promptly, so that he need not fear going to prison.

Yours, very truly,
C. N. FAHNESTOCK, JR.,
Recorder.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE net gains from county offices, for November foot up $1,581 08.

THE Duquesne Greys will assemble in fatique uniform this evening for battalion drill.

THE directors of the Chamber of Commerce should meet this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

FOUR overcoats were stolen last evening from Mr. Wm. Semple's residence, on Irwin avenue, Allegheny.

BISHOP KERFOOT held services at Stoneboro, Mercer county, yesterday morning, afternoon and evening.

ADAM SCHAUER, of the Ellsworth Engine Company, Allegheny, had his ears badly frozen at the fire on Saturday.

W. COPELAND, of Boyle street, Allegheny, has been missing since Friday, and his family are apprehensive of foul play.

HONS. JAMES J. MONAGHAN and Harry Hulse, members of the Legislature from Philadelphia, were in this city last week.

AN explosion of a cooking range occurred yesterday morning in a house on Fremont street, Allegheny. Fortunately no one was in the kitchen at the time of the accident.

PATRICK OWENS, who was recently sent to the Workhouse for six months by Mayor Phillips, is an incorrigible vag of twenty-five years standing. Of late he has been a great annoyance to people around the Federal street station.

GEORGE HARTLIE, charged before Alderman Edgar by W. H. Reaman with transferring a number of shares in the Workingmen's Building and Loan Association for the purpose of defrauding his creditors, was held to bail for Court in the sum of $300.

A MAN named Matthias Bower called on Clerk McConnigle, of the Allegheny Poor Board, on Saturday, and stated that two of his children were sick with smallpox, and there was nothing in the house to eat. Mr. McConnigle provided for his wants.

On and after to-day the Buffalo express on the Allegheny Valley Railroad will arrive at the Union Depot at 7:55 P. M. The Sunday special train will hereafter leave Emlenton at 3:10 P. M., and reach Pittsburgh at 7:15 P. M., stopping at all stations.

TO-MORROW evening a concert will be given at the Central Presbyterian Church for the benefit of the Sabbath school attached thereto. A choice and interesting programme has been arranged, in which well known amateur singers will take part. Admission twenty five cents.

JOHN GRIFFITH was committed to jail on Saturday by Alderman Kreuter, on a charge of having stolen a wagon from Michael Tobin. The defendant put in the plea that he only borrowed the vehicle until he could get his own repaired. Griffin will have a hearing to-morrow.

THE total cost of the repavement of Wood street with Ligonier stone will aggregate $21,572 50, but the assessment per foot front of property abutting on the street has not yet been calculated. There were 8,292 4-10 square yards of grading and paving and 3,111 4 10 square yards of crossings.

GOVERNOR JACOB, of West Virginia, has issued a requisition upon the Governor of Pennsylvania for the apprehension and delivery of Peter Mazoney, charged with the crime of grand larceny, committed in Wheeling. Mazoney having fled from justice to Pennsylvania. The Governor appointed officer Robert Jenkins to arrest Mazony and take him back.

CHARLES ROSS, tried and convicted some six months ago in the United States District Court, on a charge of passing counterfeit money, and sentenced to the Penitentiary, filed his petition on Saturday, as an indigent convict, before United States Commissioner McCandless, who discharged him. Charley was formerly a watchman in the Anchor Bank, of this city.

ON Wednesday next the Pennsylvania Railroad company will issue excursion tickets on all trains going west, at all stations between Derry and Pittsburgh, but only good on a special train leaving the city at 11:31 P. M. This will be done as an experiment, the object being to afford residents along each road an opportunity to visit the Opera House and Library Hall.

THE Conference Committee from Select and Common Council met on Saturday to consider the matter of the contract of the East End Gas Company with the city, and after considerable discussion, agreed to recommend the ordinance to councils as originally reported, which puts the term of the contract at fifteen years. Mr. McClaren opposed the resolution and gave notice that he would contest it in councils.

CHARLES FRANKE, of Hook and Ladder Company "A," was thrown from the truck home from the fire at Thirty-fifth street Saturday evening, became so numb from cold that on a sudden jolt of the truck he was unseated and thrown to the street and severely injured. He was carried into a house on Penn avenue, above Thirtieth street, where he received medical attention. He was then removed to his home.

A WRITER in the New York *Herald* of Saturday calls the attention of people to a precaution against fire in use in the cotton manufactories of New England, in the shape of a system of perforated pipes placed at frequent intervals under the ceilings of each story, and recommends the introduction of a similar device into all theaters. When Mr. Coleman built the Pittsburgh Opera House he adopted this very plan, by which, simply by turning a crank, the stage can be flooded in an instant. The perforated pipes are supplied with water from a six inch main extending to the top of the building.

A CHANCE FOR THE CHARITABLE.

A Good Suggestion to Those Who Would Provide Holiday Dinners for Criminals.

On last Thanksgiving Day Rev. Darmitt, alluding to the fact that the prisoners in the county jail had not been provided with a holiday dinner, said that Rev. S. R. Frazier, pastor of the Third U. P. Church, would have provided a dinner for the prisoners at his own expense if he had known that no step in that direction had been taken. It was since been stated that it was the intention of Mr. Frazier and other charitable persons to carry out their project of feeding the prisoners on Christmas or New Year's Day. This announcement led to the suggestion that those charitable people could bestow their gifts of roast turkey, oyster "in every style," wild game and other delicacies upon objects far more worthy and much needier than are the prisoners confined in our county jail, i. e., the suffering families of the prisoners. The suggestion is supported by the following facts: The prisoners are regularly fed by the county on wholesome, substantial fare, to wit: On Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, on meat and potatoes and 1½ pounds of bread per day each; Wednesdays and Saturdays, three pints of soup and 1½ pounds of bread each, and Thursdays and Sundays 1½ pounds of bread. The families of many of these prisoners are, obviously, without means of support and are in great distress. The suggestion has the approval of the prisoners themselves, and no further argument is needed to convince the truly charitable that by its adoption they will be placing their holiday dinners where they will do the most good.

Warden Smith has furnished the names of a number of the prisoners whose families are in great distress, together with directions which will enable Rev. Frazier and his co-workers to find and relieve many worthy and needy persons. The list will be found below:

Frederick Graebei—Wife and three children; No. 104 Carson street, company house of Painter's mill, South Side.

Joseph Bowman—Wife and child; Moorhead postoffice, Fayette township.

George Miller—Wife and two children; in Shaffer's old brewery, Ninth street, near the railroad.

Adam Haley—Wife and four children; Pleasant Valley, Allegheny, next door to the old car stable.

Frederick Herbst—Wife, 53 Virgin alley, Allegheny.

Wm. S. Rean, colored—Mother, Rebecca Friend; 17 Herron alley, Allegheny.

John Frazer, colored—Wife and child; head of Federal street, Pittsburgh.

John Ford, colored—Mother, Mrs. Carter; 47 Clark street, Pittsburgh.

Daniel McClelland—Wife and four children; East Elizabeth, Pa.

John H. Kelley—Sister, Mrs. Kate Regan; 31 Gibbon street, Pittsburgh.

John Clark—Wife and two children; Hill street, near steel works at the foot of Boyd's Hill, Pittsburgh.

Fred Myers—Wife and one child; corner Second and Ferry, Pittsburgh.

Thomas Breen—Wife and two children; Noblestown, Allegheny county, Pa.

William Palmer—Wife and two children; City Farm.

Pat Shields—Mother; Spring alley, between Thirty-third and Twenty-fourth streets, Pittsburgh.

Pat McCarthy—Wife and five children; Bessemer station, Pennsylvania Railroad, Allegheny county, Pa.

Michael Cline—Three children with no mother; Homewood.

Henry R. Snyder—Mother; 237 Center avenue, Pittsburgh.

Max Burkhardt—Mother; 50 Fourteenth street, Pittsburgh.

James McCoy—Mother; Thirty-ninth street, near arsenal, Pittsburgh.

David F. McClelland—Wife and two children; 18 Twelfth street, South Side.

Andrew Dalzell—Wife and child; 233 Webster street, Pittsburgh.

John Nohrohr—Wife and four children; 284 Ohio street, Allegheny.

Jacob Glenn—Wife and three children; 611 Walnut alley, South Side.

Lawrence Smith—Mother (Matilda Smith, 18 Long alley, Third ward, Allegheny.

George F. Kerson—Wife; 2421 Carson street, South Side.

Michael McGovern—Wife and five children; Laurel avenue, between Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth streets, Pittsburgh.

Wm. Emery—Wife and two children; 18 First street, Allegheny.

Any further information that may be desired on this subject will be cheerfully furnished by Warden Smith.

THE TEMPERANCE WORK.

Another Meeting at Library Hall—Experiences of Reformed Men.

With the charge of twenty-five cents admission, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, Library Hall was comfortably filled last evening with a very intelligent audience of both sexes anxious to hear and give aid and encouragement to Francis Murphy and to others engaged with him in the temperance cause. Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln were present and rendered some excellent music during the evening. Mr. Murphy had with him on the stage quite a number of reformed men who are now engaged in and doing great good for the cause.

After preliminary exercises Mr. H. B Curry was introduced and announced that he had signed the pledge and joined the society. He gave a history of his sufferings from liquor and urged his hearers to abstain from drink.

David Hall was next introduced and related his experience since he signed the pledge and joined the Young Men's Temperance Union. He felt much better than he did while drinking. He was happier at home, and enjoyed the society of his family as he never did before. (Applause.)

Alonzo Early next announced that he had signed the pledge, and felt much better for it. He intended with the help of God to keep it.

Mr. Shannon related his experience, and said that for the first time in five years he had this day attended any church. He felt happier, and was gladly received by everybody who knew that he had reformed.

Frank N. Burns next related his experiences. He felt that he had overcome the temptation to drink. He had prayed to God to be delivered, and his prayer had been answered. He would maintain the position.

Mr. Kirkpatrick, a young man, next confessed his wrong doing for seven years back. He had now turned a new leaf, and with the help of God he would do better in the future.

John Timony next expressed his pleasure at having joined the temperance band. He was happier this Sunday than for many a day. He, with his friends here present, intended to aid Mr. Murphy in his good work.

Mr. Samuel T. Paisley next stated his experience and pleasure at having signed the pledge. He was thankful to Mr. Murphy, who had induced him to sign the pledge for life (applause). He urged all young men to join the temperance band before it is too late.

Colonel Robert Pollock, being introduced, publicly acknowledged his indebtedness to Mr. Murphy and Chancellor Wood. One week ago he signed the pledge. It was not a long time ago, but it seemed days that the devil had been cheated of. Mr. Pollock spoke of the good already done, and said that if one-fourth of those who were intoxicated to-night were to sign the pledge good would be incalculable. He spoke of the three thousand converted by the five Apostles, and said that if there were twelve such men as Mr. Murphy they would beat the Apostles all to pieces. (Applause.) The work done already in this city is astonishing. Why, in two weeks two thousand men—drinkers—have signed the pledge. The movement is the most successful, the most wonderful ever attempted in Pittsburgh. The attempt to get up local option again, the speaker thought useless. The best option is water, and this is what these men who, under Mr. Murphy, intend to hold to. (Applause.) Mr. Pollock then gave some of his experience in drinking, and warned his hearers against tippling.

A young man whose name the reporter did not hear, came forward and announced that he had quit drink forever.

Mr. Hethrington next spoke feelingly. He acknowledged his conversion and his intention to keep the pledge. He plead with young men not to take their first drink of intoxicating liquor and then they need have no fear.

Mr. Murphy closed the evening's speeches with an eloquent appeal for reform. He argued that it was in the power of every man to free himself from the tempter, and those young men who publicly acknowledged their conversion would prove his words.

AN employee at Moui's coke ovens, Allegheny, had both hands frozen on Saturday while shoveling coke at the river bank.

COME AND SEE
The Domestic,
The most satisfactory operating Cook Stove in the market.
For sale by dealers generally. Manufactured by JOHN B. HERRON & Co., 291 Liberty street.
stuth

Books Make the best Presents.
S. A. Clarke & Co., Wood street, near Fifth avenue, are prepared to supply everything in the book line, from the most sumptuous folio to the smallest juvenile.

Call and Look
over our fine assortment of books and fancy goods.
S. A. CLARKE & Co.,
115 Wood street, near Fifth avenue.

The Continental Fire Insurance Company
have cash assets of over $2,800,000. Those who want good insurance will patronize their agent, James W. Arrott, at 167 Wood street.

The Grand Hotel,
of Thirty-first street and Broadway, New York, which by the way is one of the most genteel and select of hotels, is conducted by Mr. Henry Milford Smith, who has formerly been well known to the public in connection with hotels in Boston, Pittsburgh and Baltimore.

FIRES ON THE NORTH SIDE.

La Belle Steel Works Destroyed—Loss About $120,000—Insurance $90,000—Small Blaze in a Saloon.

About one o'clock Saturday afternoon a fire broke out in the La Belle Steel Works, corner of Ridge avenue and Belmont street, Allegheny, which resulted in the total destruction of the main building, including the melting shop and two spring factories. The steamers in that district were prompt in responding to the alarm, but the fire, upon their arrival, was gaining such rapid headway that it was found necessary to call out the entire department by a general alarm. By hard work the firemen succeeded in saving the warehouse and office of the establishment, and adjoining buildings. The buildings occupied a whole square, with a front of 250 feet on Ridge avenue and extending back 600 feet to Lighthill street. It was all brick except one end, which was iron-clad. The fire originated in the check house in the end of the building next the Ohio river, in what manner is not known. The works were owned by Messrs. Smith, Sutton & Co., they having purchased the property two years ago from Reiter & Co., for $212,000. They have been running constantly ever since the transfer, employing about one hundred and fifty men, nearly all of whom are thrown out of employment by the disaster. The total loss is estimated at $120,000, on which there was an insurance of $90,000, of which amount $56,250 was in Pittsburgh companies. The different companies and the apportionment of insurance are as follows:

Allemania, of Pittsburgh	$ 2,500
Artisans, of Pittsburgh	2,500
Birmingham, of Pittsburgh	2,500
Boatmens', of Pittsburgh	5,000
Cash, of Pittsburgh	5,000
City, of Pittsburgh	5,000
German, of Pittsburgh	5,000
German American, of Pittsburgh	2,500
Iron City, of Pittsburgh	2,500
Monongahela, of Pittsburgh	2,500
Pennsylvania, of Pittsburgh	3,750
Pittsburgh, of Pittsburgh	2,500
Union, of Pittsburgh	2,500
Western, of Pittsburgh	5,000
Ben. Franklin, of Allegheny	2,500
Federal, of Allegheny	2,500
National, of Allegheny	2,500
Amazon, of Cincinnati	5,000
Citizens', of St. Louis	5,000
Delaware, of Philadelphia	7,500
Girard, of Philadelphia	7,500
Lancaster, of Lancaster, Pa	3,750
Merchants', of Newark, N. J	2,500
Northwestern National, of Milwaukee	5,000
Peoples', of Trenton, N. J	2,500
Total	$90,000

The City Insurance Company has $2,500 of its liability reinsured in the Kenton, of Covington, Ky.

A member of the firm of Smith, Sutton & Co., states that they will rebuild the works at once.

About three o'clock in the afternoon, while the engines were at the steel works fire, an alarm was sounded from box 34 and smoke was seen rising from the Pavilion saloon, kept by Frederick Belchler, in West Diamond. Detective Geary, of the Mayor's office, and others ran over and by means of buckets got the fire out and prevented what might have been an extensive conflagration, for the engines did not appear, the wind being so high, and the confusion at the steel works so great, that the alarm did not reach them. The fire originated in a room on the second story, where a family of the proprietor was just gone to look up his skates and dropped some matches. The loss will not exceed $200.

Chief Crow and a number of the firemen had their ears and fingers frozen while nobly performing their duty at the steel works fire.

EXTENSIVE FIRE IN LAWRENCEVILLE.

A Tannery Destroyed and Two Dwellings Damaged.

On Saturday a somewhat extensive fire occurred in the Fifteenth ward, resulting in a loss of over $30,000. The tannery and glue factory of William Flaccus & Son, at Thirty-fifth and Charlotte streets, together with its contents, was almost entirely destroyed, and two adjacent dwellings were seriously damaged. The fire was caused by a spark from the furnace, which ignited the tan-bark house, and all the buildings of the manufactory being frame, with a considerable gale the flames spread rapidly. Persons in the neighborhood ran to the alarm boxes and almost simultaneously, shortly after twelve o'clock, noon, signals were received at the Central alarm office of the Fire Department from boxes 71 and 72. Signal "71" was sent out and prompt response was made by the entire portion of the fire department necessary for that district. Chief White, when he arrived, which was as quickly as a horse could take him from the headquarters, saw that the fire had gained considerable headway and other property being in danger sent in a second signal which brought three more companies to the scene. Notwithstanding the firemen experienced was the freezing of the hose, which occurred every time they turned off the water for a change. This obliged them to take the hose in sections, causing many of them to freeze their fingers. They worked nobly, though covered with ice from head to toe. The neighbors threw open their doors, allowing them to go in and warm. The mill fires outside, too, but got little good of them. When they were not playing upon the fire they were obliged to attend to the hose. They could not send all in the checking of the flames, for heaps of burning leather and burning timber kept three companies engaged till ten o'clock in the evening. The tannery buildings were almost totally destroyed, together with a large stock of hides, leather and tan bark and the machinery. The firm put their loss at $35,000, on which they hold insurance policies as follows:

Allemania, of Pittsburgh	$1,862 50
Cash, of Pittsburgh	1,875 00
Citizens', of Pittsburgh	1,250 00
People's, of Pittsburgh	2,500 00
M. & M., of Pittsburgh	1,250 00
Pittsburgh, of Pittsburgh	1,250 00
City, of Pittsburgh	1,862 50
German, of Pittsburgh	1,500 00
Humboldt, of Allegheny	2,500 00
Amitscelle, of Philadelphia	1,250 00
Citizens', of St. Louis	2,000 00
Total	$18,250 00

The losses to adjoining property are as follows:

Simon Walt, two-story brick dwelling; loss, $2,000; insured in Pennsylvania, of Pittsburgh, for $2,000.

John Kelly, two-story frame house; loss, $500; fully insured in Lycoming, of Muney, Pa.

CONSPIRACY TO ROB A BANK.

Reported Discovery of a Plot Against the Fayette County National—Arrest of Four Men in this City—Two of Them Well-Known Here.

On Saturday morning the Mayor's detectives, under instructions from Chief Hartzell, arrested four young men on suspicion of having been engaged in a conspiracy to rob the Fayette County National Bank of Uniontown. The arrests were ordered from telegraphic information from the Sheriff of Fayette county, Calvin Springer. The Sheriff had telegraphed Chief Hartzell on Friday evening, giving a description of four men wanted, but no further information than that they were parties to a conspiracy as stated, and would arrive in this city about nine o'clock that evening. The dispatch came too late to have the officers at the train on its arrival, and the detectives were set to work on a search for the men. The arrests were made Saturday morning. Two of the men are Daniel Downer and Edward Northam, and the others are said to be named Scott and Bell. The last two are believed to belong at Uniontown, and the others are well known here. Downer is or was for a long time the proprietor of the saloon in Market alley known as the "Little Central." Northam has been raised here. He was some years since employed in the office of the alarm telegraph as an operator. While there he was implicated in some illegal transactions and threatened by his discharge.

Chief Hartzell says he is without any particulars upon which the charge is based and the police are keeping mum on the affair. They will not give the names of the parties under arrest and in the station house, but it is believed that those given above are correct. Sheriff Springer will be in the city to-day, when, no doubt, the circumstances of the case will be given the public.

NEW FEDERAL STREET DEPOT.

Conference Between an Allegheny Council Committee and the Railroad Authorities.

The committee of Allegheny Councils on the new railroad depot met with Mr. J. D. Layng and others, the officers of the Fort Wayne Railroad, in the office of City Clerk White, in City Hall, Saturday night, and viewed plans of the proposed structure submitted by the latter. John H. Hampton, one of the solicitors of the road, was present to explain matters. The committee representing the city are Messrs. Wilson, Callery and Armstrong.

The only point at issue is the procuring by the railroad company from the city of fifteen feet of a width of that vacant piece of ground between Stockton avenue and the present Fort Wayne depot, which has for a long time been unoccupied by baggage wagons, carts, etc. This ground they want for a balcony, along which passengers can walk from the trains to the street with clean feet.

The building will be a two-story structure of pressed brick and stone, and will run back fifty feet from Federal street, on which it will have a frontage of eighty feet. The interior will be sub-divided into a gentlemen's waiting room, ladies' waiting room, with retiring apartment; baggage room in the northwest corner and ticket offices. The upper floor will contain the offices and conductors' rooms. The ceiling will be twenty feet high. A shed four hundred feet long and twenty-five feet wide, will extend along the main track south of the depot.

The committee will report the result of the conference at the next meeting of Councils.

A SHIPWRECKED sailor waiting for a sail is like a business man sitting at home nursing a cough or cold. Get Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup and be cured.

THE FEMALE FORGER.

A Further Account of Her Operations.

In the COMMERCIAL of Saturday we gave an account of the arrest of Mrs. Rose Turnbull on the charges of forgery, etc. Mrs. T. it appears, came to the city about six weeks ago and engaged boarding at the Western Exchange Hotel, East Liberty. She is about thirty-five years of age, and her countenance, address and manners are rather prepossessing on a first acquaintance. She went by the name of Mrs. Rose at the hotel, but she informed the proprietor that her husband's name was Turnbull—a name that she did not adopt because she disliked it. Upon her arrival at the hotel she was accompanied by Mr. Turnbull, who, however, did not return until last week. When the couple arrived they had no baggage save two small satchels, and the lady informed the hotel proprietor that she was from Cleveland, where she left her three children in charge of her mother, and that she had come here to speculate in real estate, her idea being to trade property she owned in Cleveland for real estate here. She stated that her husband was related to Mr. Carnegie, of Carnegie, Kloman & Co., and that in case she could make satisfactory real estate transactions her husband and herself would settle in this city. Mr. Turnbull is employed by F. and W. M. Faber, for use, vs. Henry Brown; motion made and reasons filed for a new trial.

John F. Dravo vs. J. F. Dillinger, in which a verdict was rendered for plaintiff; a new trial was granted.

Peter Schatz vs. Jacob Schimmer; a verdict was rendered for plaintiff for $7,100.

The following members of the bar were appointed an examining committee for the year 1877: Jacob H. Miller, W. W. Thompson, G. A. McClung, J. M. Kennedy and John Dalzell.

Annie W. Reno vs. John L. Reno, in divorce; rule to show cause why defendant should not be attached; continued.

Voluntary assignment of Behrens & Jankowitz; report of auditor confirmed and S. C. Schoyer, Esq., appointed to distribute the funds.

Voluntary assignment of the Duquesne Savings Bank; Eugene M. O'Neill, Esq., appointed auditor to report distribution.

Voluntary assignment of Johnston & Harrison, Esqs., to Edgar Forsythe, Andrew Moody and W. C. Barr appointed appraisers.

The Iron and Glass Dollar Savings banks vs. John Stoll; judgment entered on report entered in both cases for want of sufficient affidavit of defense.

Alex. McClurg & Co. vs. H. J. Riddle; J. A. McQuaide, Esq., appointed auditor to distribute funds.

Voluntary assignment of R. H. Patterson to Jos. Brund. Application made to assignee requiring him to appear and exhibit an account of his trust within ten days.

Jacob H. Walter was appointed committee of William Todd, to give bond in $2,500.

Regina Leiritz vs. Herman Leiritz, in divorce; B. Maxwell, Esq., appointed Commissioner.

Annie Schilt vs. Louis Schilt, libel in divorce; petition presented and subpœna awarded.

Margaret Gothard vs. John Gothard, in divorce; petition presented and subpœna awarded.

James Wilson vs. Jos. Brund. Auditor's report confirmed absolutely.

Joseph Heidle vs. Catharine Heidle, in divorce. M. K. Houseman, Esq., appointed commissioner to take testimony.

Owen Hughes vs. Lillie Hughes, in divorce. James Fitzsimmons, Esq., appointed commissioner to take testimony.

Common Pleas Court No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

On petition of Sarah Scott and Mary Campbell, a commission de lunatico inquirendo was allowed to issue to inquire into the alleged lunacy of John Boyd. D. D. Bruce, Esq., appointed commissioner.

James Dobbins vs. Bridget Dobbins, in divorce. James H. Porie was appointed commissioner.

Orphans' Court—Judge Hawkins.

George Dale was appointed guardian of Mary E. Heath, and his bond in $300 approved.

Mary A. Ferguson, deceased; resignation of John S. Ferguson as trustee accepted, and G. B. W. Gill, Esq., appointed.

John Hulse, deceased; bond of I. A. Ross, administrator, approved.

Wm. M. Lyon, minor, deceased; James Porter appointed trustee *ad litem* for Mary E. Lyon, minor, and Frederick Belchler, trustee, and Mrs. Clark Lyon to show cause why Samuel McCleery, guardian of said W. M. Lyon, should not be discharged.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Stowe.

William Doran, who had been convicted of assault and battery on oath of Charles Cox, was sentenced to the Workhouse for six months.

George Kuntz, convicted of assault and battery on oath of Daniel Deitmiller, was given four months to the same institution.

Michael Kline, who had pleaded guilty to the charge of keeping a gaming house, William Beckett being the prosecutor, was fined ten dollars and costs and given four months to the Workhouse.

Thomas Wilson, convicted of larceny and receiving stolen goods, on oath of John Laudenschlager, but the jury had accompanied their verdict with a recommendation for mercy. He was given four months in the Workhouse.

Jacob Glenn, the man who had employed two little children to steal for him, and who had been convicted of larceny and receiving stolen goods, William H. Morgan being the prosecutor, was sentenced to the Penitentiary for two years and nine months.

Barbara Carlisle, who had been convicted of selling liquor without a license, in South Fayette township, on oath of R. Simpson, but who was recommended by the jury to the mercy of the Court, was fined $200 and costs, the minimum fine allowed by law.

Patrick McCarty, for a brutal assault on Ann Driscoll, was sent to the Workhouse eight months, the Judge remarking that as the prisoner had a large family he would not give him the full extent, one year, though he richly deserved it.

John Clark, for surety of the peace, was discharged. He had been in jail for a couple of weeks, and aside from the face the evidence showed that the prosecutor had persuaded him to break his temperance pledge, and it was while drunk, in consequence, that he became obstreperous.

The building will be a two-story structure of pressed brick and stone, and will run back fifty feet from Federal street, on which it will have a frontage of eighty feet. The interior will be sub-divided into a gentlemen's waiting room, ladies' waiting room, with retiring apartment; baggage room in the northwest corner and ticket offices. The upper floor will contain the offices and conductors' rooms. The ceiling will be twenty feet high. A shed four hundred feet long and twenty-five feet wide, will extend along the main track south of the depot.

The committee will report the result of the conference at the next meeting of Councils.

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FIRE ON MT. WASHINGTON.

Three Buildings Destroyed—Loss About $10,000—Insurance $5,250—A False Alarm.

About eight o'clock last evening a fire broke out in a row of frame buildings, three in number, on Southern avenue, Thirty second ward (Mt. Washington), and all were burned to the ground. The houses were owned by Mr. Jacob Soffel, who occupied one of them as a dwelling and grocery. The house adjoining, on the right, was occupied as a residence by Mr. Traugott Miller, who kept a beer saloon in the third and last house of the row.

The fire started in Miller's residence, and as the family were absent it is not known how it originated. The alarm was turned in about half-past eight from box 124, and the district engines promptly proceeded to the vicinity of that box, which is located on Carson street, near the Pan Handle depot. When it was ascertained that the fire was on the hill the Chief decided to forego an attempt to take an engine up there, and sent a hose carriage. When it arrived the fire had done its worst.

Mr. Soffel's loss is estimated at $8,600 upon which he has insurance to the amount of $3,500—$1,750 in the Glenn Falls Company, N. Y., and the remainder in Western companies.

Mr. Miller's loss, in furniture, bar fixtures, stock, etc., is about $1,500, and his insurance $1,300, in the Merchants and Manufacturers' Company, of this city.

Mr. Soffel had his stock of groceries insured, the policy expired on Friday last and had not been renewed.

A frame stable in the rear of Miller's house, together with a lot of forage, was destroyed, but the horses and harness were saved.

The Mt. Washington Postoffice was located in Soffel's grocery. There was only a small quantity of mail matter on hand, and it was taken out unlighted.

Two houses across the street from the burned buildings were scorched and damaged to the extent of about $150, which damage is covered by insurance in the Merchants & Manufacturers.

The alarm from box 123, at one o'clock this morning, was false.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

As announced on Saturday morning, the gross proceeds of this evening's performance at the Opera House will be forwarded to the Mayor of Brooklyn, to be used for the relief of the suffering families of those who perished in the fire at the theater in that city on Tuesday night last. That there is present and urgent need for relief is shown by the statement in our dispatches on the first page of this morning's COMMERCIAL, where it is said that seventy five families are entirely destitute, and that one hundred to two hundred others need partial relief.

Miss Maggie Mitchell gives all her part of the proceeds of the first presentation in this city of her new play, "Becky Mix," to the small girl, by the way,—while Mr. Gotthold, as will be seen by the correspondence below, gives his own and the services of his company, orchestra, attaches, lights, fuel and rental of the Opera House. This is a noble act on their part. Now let the public act as nobly, and turn out and crowd the house. This is one of the first, if not the first, of the benefits for the Brooklyn relief fund; and Pittsburghers owe it to themselves to make the sum of the receipts one of which they need not be ashamed when the list of similar contributions is published.

Appended is the correspondence between Miss Mitchell and Mr. Gotthold:

PITTSBURGH, December 8, 1876.

MY DEAR MR. GOTTHOLD: Brooklyn is a city of sorrow; let us do all we can to alleviate those in distress. I willingly offer my humble services for a benefit performance, the proceeds to be given to those in need—those who have lost their protectors and support. The day and date for the benefit to be arranged by yourself.

Yours, very truly,
MAGGIE MITCHELL.

J. N. Gotthold, Esq., Opera House.

PITTSBURGH, December 8, 1876.

MY DEAR MISS MITCHELL:—Your kind and sympathetic note this moment received. Your few lines fully express your noble heart. I accept your generous offer, and present your appeal to the citizens of Pittsburgh, and name Monday evening, December 11, for the benefit. I cheerfully tender the services of my company, orchestra and attaches, so that we can send the entire gross receipts to the sorrow stricken city.

Yours, sincerely,
J. N GOTTHOLD.

The new play, "Becky Mix," is a comedy, or comedy-drama, and if what the critics say of it be true, it is likely to prove as great a source of wealth to Miss Mitchell as the "Mighty Dollar" has to the Florences, or "Mulberry Sellers" to Raymond. It is essentially an American play, the characters drawn from life in New York, and has every element of popularity. The cast will be an unusually strong one, as it embraces Miss Mitchell, Mc Williams Harris, Mr. J. N. Gotthold and the full Opera House company. It has been thoroughly rehearsed under the personal supervision of the fair star, and to-night's performance may be expected to go as smoothly as a third or fourth representation of a play usually does.

Those who propose to attend to-night, or during the week, will act wisely in securing their seats in advance, as there will without doubt be a rush.

Library Hall—Janauschek.

The Salsbury Troubadours closed their week of fun on Saturday to good audiences. They made any amount of popularity during their stay.

This evening Mme. Janauschek, one of the greatest of living actresses, will inaugurate a week of tragedy this evening, opening her engagement with Schiller's version of "Mary Stuart." On Monday next she will play in "Macbeth," "Deborah" and "Cheney Wold." She will be supported by Edwin Cushing's dramatic company, who have been playing with her in Cleveland for the past week in the same works, and are, therefore, well drilled in the several characters.

The Cleveland *Leader* of December 5th said of her performance of *Marie Stuart*: Madame Janauschek appeared before a large audience last evening in the title role of Schiller's historical drama entitled "Marie Stuart." The delineation of the character was such as no other woman on the stage could have given but Mme. Janauschek. The period of the unfortunate Queen's life represented in the drama is passed beneath the gloomy shadow of the prison where she is surrounded by foes, doubtful friends and a few faithful servants. The great predominating element in the characterization must be grief; not the demonstrative, noisy, petulant grief born of a transitory disappointment, but the profound, sullen grief of a Queen, dispossessed of a throne, seeing but the fetters of bondage around her, the executioner's block before her, with the strong deep sadness of her queenly pride and womanly tenderness trembling and beating in her bosom. On the part of the actress it calls for great reserve power, which Madame Janauschek possesses in an almost unlimited degree. All the dark sorrow associated with the character, with its fatal forebodings, continually surrounding her, giving a melancholy tinge to the queenly grandeur and dignity which never leave her. In her faultless elocution every sentence falls with power, but in her wonderful art she expresses more by her silent looks and movements than by her words. There is always perceptible in her a profound, subdued power, a calm, deep, fearful force, restrained by its chains, but ready to break forth with violence. The scene in the Forest of Fotheringay is made remark